IT'S GORGEOUS.

TRULY A THING OF BEAUTY.

THE POORLY LOCKED TREASURE CHEST!

WOW, CHECK IT OUT! IT'S NOT EVEN LOCKED AT ALL!

CAREFUL, THERE MIGHT BE TRAPS.

OH PLEASE FORGATH, THIS IS THE WONDERFUL LAND OF FIRST LEVEL ADVENTURES. WHERE THERE ARE NO LETHAL TRAPS AND THE MONSTERS NEVER, EVER USE THEIR OWN MAGIC...

...ITEMS?

AAAH!

MINMAX!

THIS IS A HELMET

BUT... YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO...

...THE RULES...

THE RULES JUST CHANGED.

ALRIGHT, LET'S END THIS, NAMES.

CA-CLICK

DON'T WORRY MINMAX, I GOT YER...

THIS IS A HELMET

...BACK?

THIS IS A HELMET

ATTACK!

THOPP

GAAA!

AH!

CLANG

THUMP

OOF!

OH CRAP!

AAH!

OOF!

YES! HA HA!

THIS IS A HELMET

I AM FREAKIN UNBEATABLE!

YAAAAAH!!

CHIIING

CHA-CHING-CA-KLING

AS LONG AS NAMES HAS THOSE MAGIC ITEMS, I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN BEAT HIM!

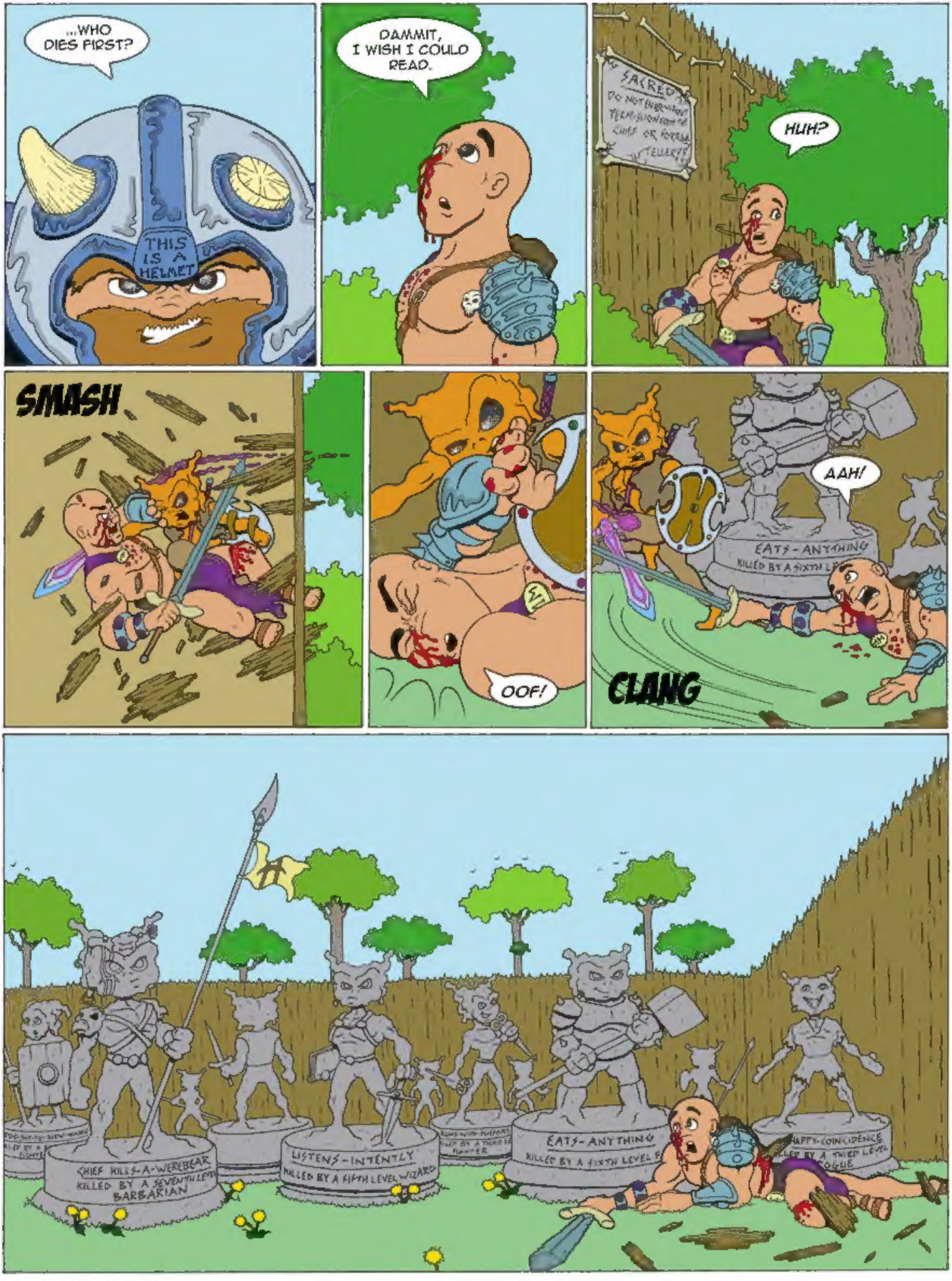
SACRED DO NOT ENTER WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE CHIEF OR FORTUNE TELLER!!

HUFF HUFF

?

THUNT JAN '06

NO!
I'LL KILL YOU FOR THAT!
AAH!
RRRR...
THIS IS A HELMET
OKAY THEN...


...WHO DIES FIRST?
THIS IS A HELMET
DAMMIT, I WISH I COULD READ.
SACRED
HUH?
SMASH
OOF!
AAH!
EATS-ANYTHING
CLANG
CHIEF KILLS-A-WEREBEAR
KILLED BY A SEVENTH LEVEL BARBARIAN
LISTENS-INTENTLY
KILLED BY A FIFTH LEVEL WIZARD
EATS-ANYTHING
HAPPY-COINCIDENCE

NNNUH!
RRRYUH!
NAAAH!
THUNK
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MINMAX? IS MURDERING MY KIND NOT FUN ANYMORE?
NNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNAMES!!!!
THUNT JAN'06

UUH!
RAAA!
FUMBLES, LOOK OUT!
AAAH!
CRUNCH
AAARH!
CRAKK
THWACK

THACO!
NO.
-8
COFF.
YOU CUT MY HELMET, GOBLIN! FOR THAT, I'M PERSONALLY GONNA FINISH YOU OFF!
YOU... YOU... GET THE HELL AWAY FROM HIM, DWARF!
NO. THE WARCAMP IS LOST. JUST GET OUT OF HERE.
NO!
NOW YOU LISTEN TO ME, YOU STUPID BOY! THERE AIN'T NOTHING THAT CAN SAVE ME NOW! YOU THREE RUN AND GET MY SON AWAY FROM THAT HUMAN MONSTER! YOU GET MY SON AND YOU GET OUTTA HERE!
JUST DON'T LET HIM HURT MY SON, OKAY? PLEASE.
-9

THIS IS A HELMET
RAAAA!
CURE MINOR WOUNDS!
THIS IS A HELMET
HUFF
HUFF
THAT'S ALL THE MAGIC I HAVE LEFT IT WON'T DO MUCH, BUT IT'LL STABALIZE YOU AND STOP YOU FROM BLEEDING TO DEATH
I THINK WE'VE MADE A TRAGIC MISTAKE
THUNT JAN 06

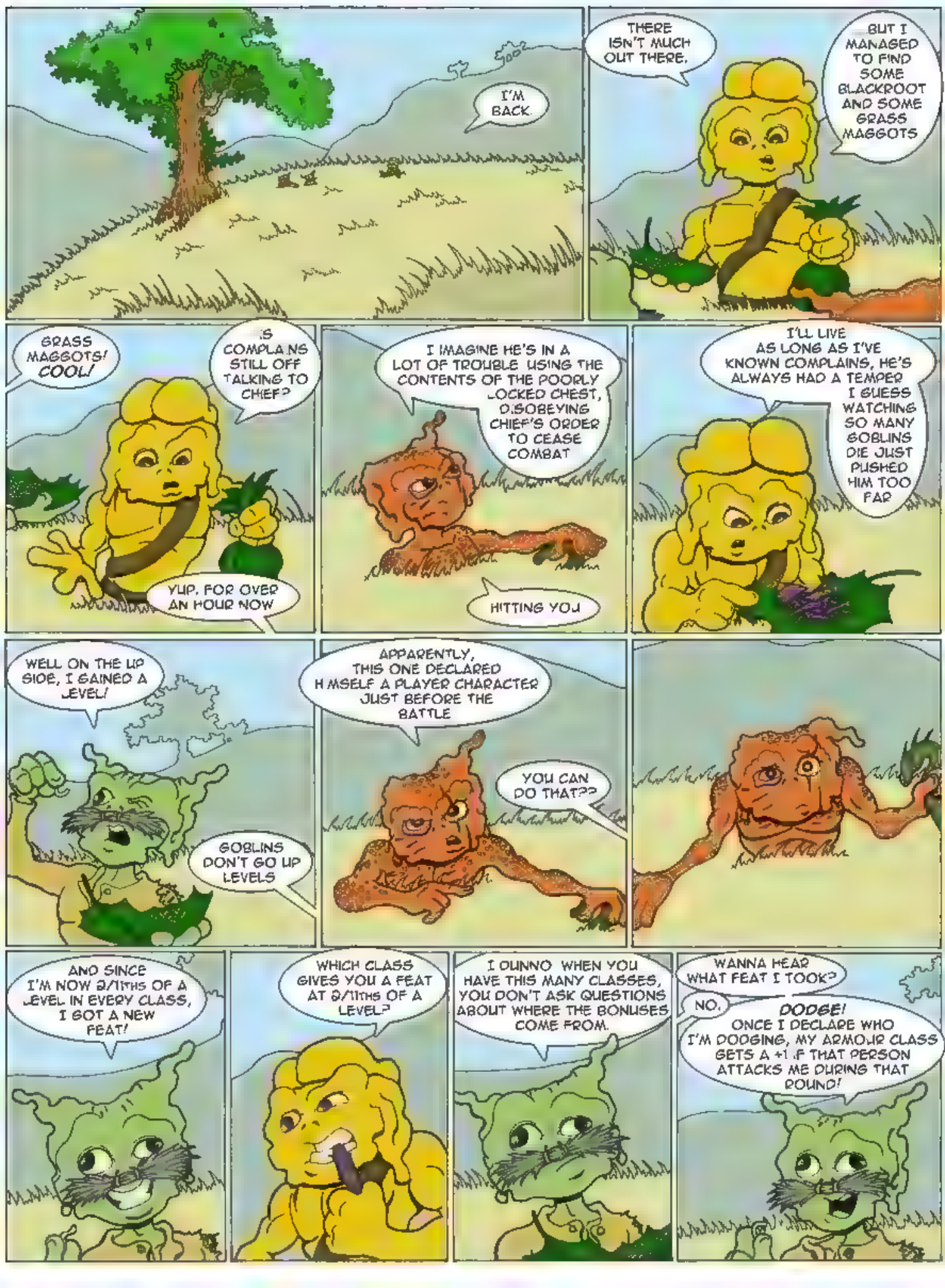
I ONCE HEARD THAT GETTING CUT BY AN ENCHANTED BLADE ACTUALLY HURTS LESS THAN A REGULAR BLADE BECAUSE IT'S SHARPER
I WOULDN'T KNOW, THOUGH.
MM
RAAA!
CHAAANG
YOU'VE LOST A LOT OF BLOOD YOU CAN'T EVEN STAND ANYMORE
OOF!
I WANT YOU TO KNOW *EXACTLY* WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BE THE VICTIM, MINMAX TO BE HUNTED
BEFORE YOU DIE, I WANT YOU TO FEEL WHAT *MY* KIND FEELS.
HHNNN!

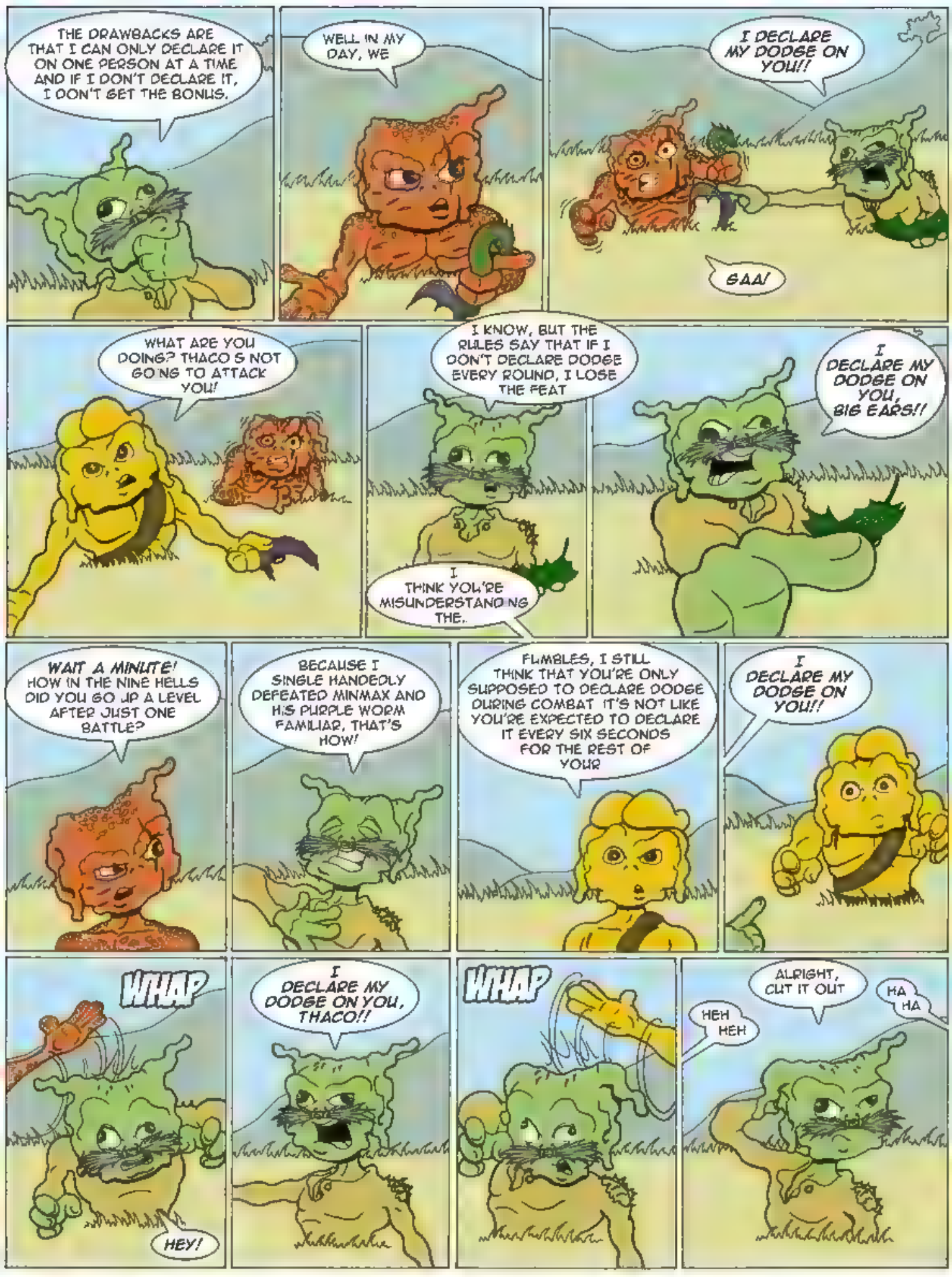
!
OH.
THAT'S CLEVER
AAAH!
AA-AAH!
UH!
CA-CLICK
I
AM MINMAX
...THE UNSTOPPABLE WARRIOR!
CLANG

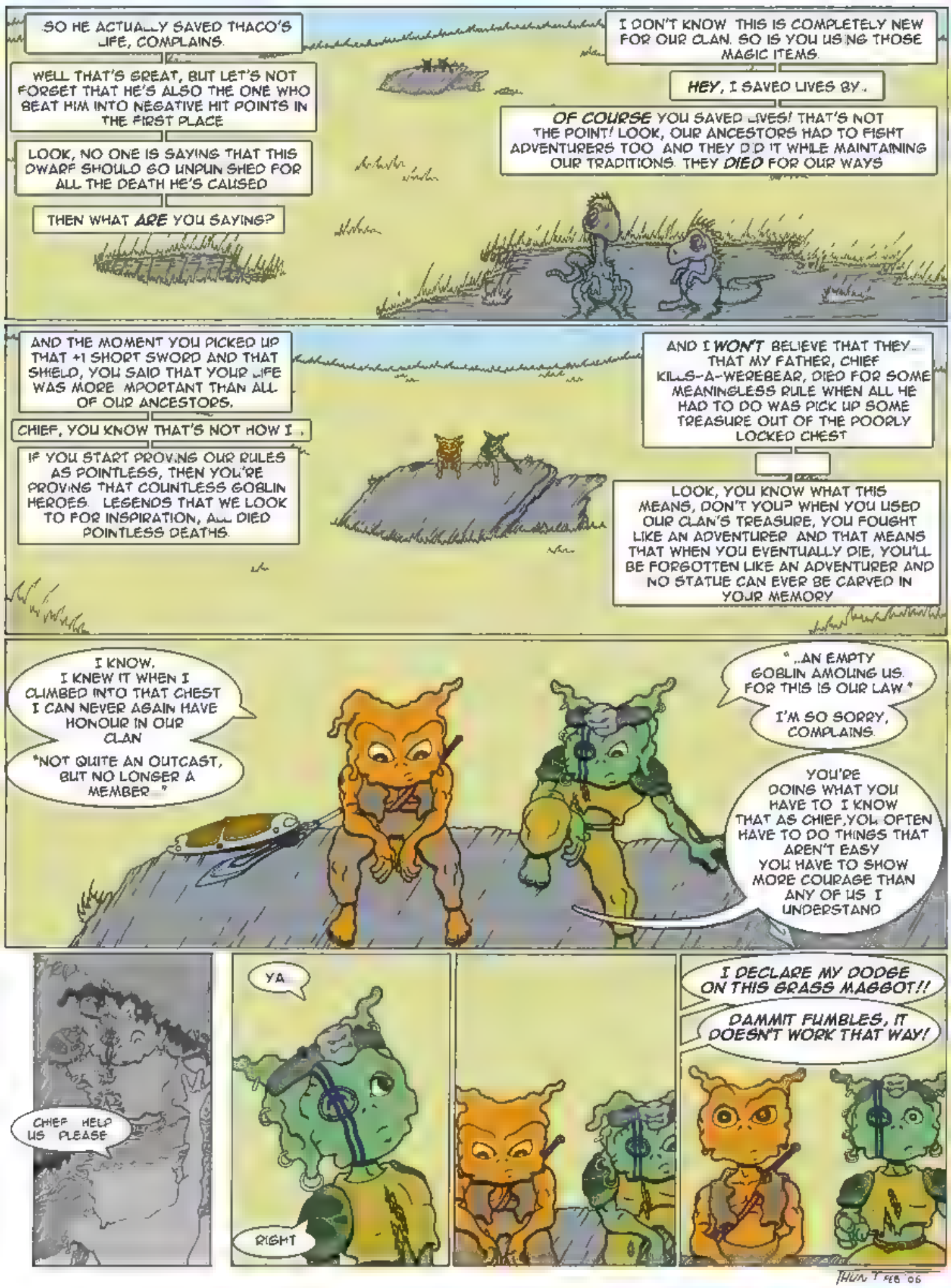
WHA ?
AAH! GET IT OFF!
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?
MINMAX!
COMPLAINS!
GODS HELP US, IT'S THE SHIELD OF WONDER WE'RE A... IN GREAT DANGER!
FORGATH!
EATS - ANYTHING
HELP ME! PLEASE!
HANG ON, MINMAX! I'M ON MY WAY!
THIS IS A HELMET

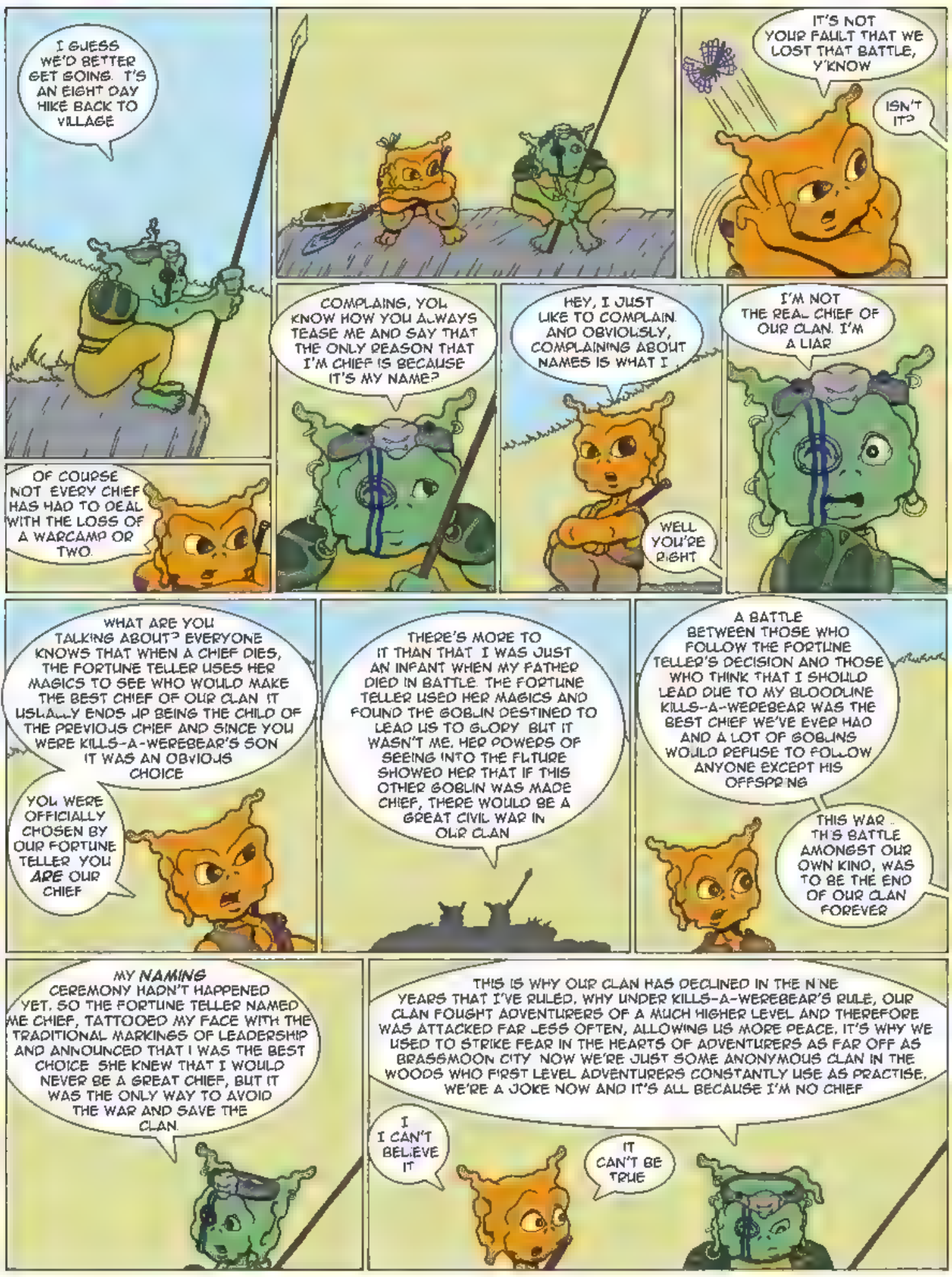
NO FORGATH! DON'T GET TOO CLOSE!
IT'S OKAY, I'VE SAVED HIM FROM TENTACLES BEFORE.
NNNUUH!
THANKS!
CA-CLICK
NOW LET'S GO FINISH THOSE BASTARDS OFF!
I THINK IT'S SOME KIND OF ENTANGLING SPELL!
NOW YOU DIE, ADVENTURERS!
COMPLAINS WAIT! SOMETHING'S HAPPENED!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? LET GO OF ME!
IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE AND WE ALL HAVE TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO WE HAVE TO TALK.
I KNOW WHAT TO DO! THEY HAVE TO DIE FOR THE GOBLINS THEY'VE KILLED!
AND IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT, FINE. BUT STAY OUT OF MY WAY!
DAMMIT COMPLAINS! DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S LOST SOMETHING TODAY! ONE EYE WAS MY BEST FRIEND SINCE BIRTH AND IF I CAN STOP AND THINK ABOUT WHAT I'M DOING BEFORE I CREATE MORE DEATH, THEN SO CAN YOU, YOU SELFISH BASTARD!

KWACK
YOU THINK ONE EYE WOULD WANT YOU TO "STOP AND THINK" WHILE THEY KILL MORE GOBLINS?
YOU THINK THEY "STOPPED AND THOUGHT" BEFORE THEY DID THAT TO MY FATHER? YOU THINK THEY SHOWED ANY MERCY?
THIS IS A BATTLE FOR OUR LIVES AND I DON'T HAVE TIME TO CATER TO YOUR CONSCIENCE, EARS
COMPLAINS, YOU DONT UNDERSTAND! THE DWARF
NO! LET GO OF ME!
THAT STICKY STUFF IS GRABBING EVERYTH NG! WE HAVE TO GET AWAY WHILE WE STILL CAN!
NOOO!
I SWEAR I'LL KILL YOU, MINMAX! I SWEAR IT!! YOU HEAR ME?! YOU'RE DEAD!!
I'LL FIND YOU, NAMES! YOU CAN'T RUN FROM ME! I'LL WIPE OUT YOUR WHOLE GOD DAMNED RACE!!
?
THUNT JAN '06


I'M BACK.
THERE ISN'T MUCH OUT THERE.
BUT I MANAGED TO FIND SOME BLACKROOT AND SOME GRASS MAGGOTS
GRASS MAGGOTS! COOL!
.S COMPLA.NS STILL OFF TALKING TO CHEF?
YUP. FOR OVER AN HOUR NOW
I IMAGINE HE'S IN A LOT OF TROUBLE USING THE CONTENTS OF THE POORLY LOCKED CHEST, D.SOBEYING CHIEF'S ORDER TO CEASE COMBAT
HITTING YOJ
I'LL LIVE AS LONG AS I'VE KNOWN COMPLAINS, HE'S ALWAYS HAD A TEMPER I GUESS WATCHING SO MANY GOBLINS DIE JUST PUSHED HIM TOO FAR
WELL ON THE UP SIDE, I GAINED A JEVEL!
GOBLINS DON'T GO UP LEVELS
APPARENTLY, THIS ONE DECLARED H MSELF A PLAYER CHARACTER JUST BEFORE THE BATTLE
YOU CAN DO THAT??
AND SINCE I'M NOW 2/11THS OF A JEVEL IN EVERY CLASS, I GOT A NEW FEAT!
WHICH CLASS GIVES YOU A FEAT AT 2/11THS OF A LEVEL?
I DUNNO WHEN YOU HAVE THIS MANY CLASSES, YOU DON'T ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT WHERE THE BONUSES COME FROM.
WANNA HEAR WHAT FEAT I TOOK?
NO.
DODGE! ONCE I DECLARE WHO I'M DODGING, MY ARMOJR CLASS GETS A +1 .F THAT PERSON ATTACKS ME DURING THAT ROUND!

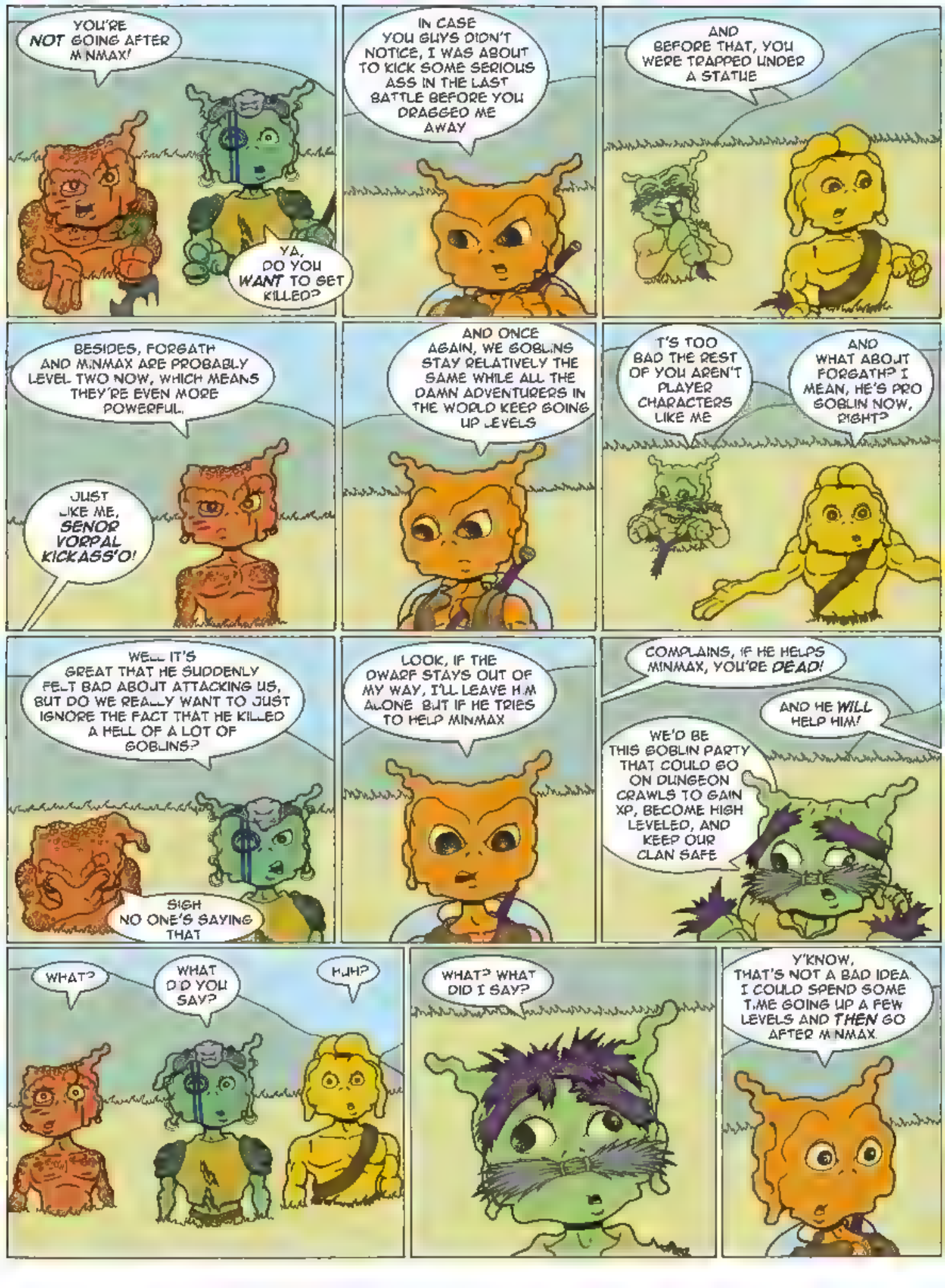

THE DRAWBACKS ARE THAT I CAN ONLY DECLARE IT ON ONE PERSON AT A TIME AND IF I DON'T DECLARE IT, I DON'T GET THE BONUS.
WELL IN MY DAY, WE
I DECLARE MY DODGE ON YOU!!
SAA!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THACO S NOT GO NG TO ATTACK YOU!
I KNOW, BUT THE RULES SAY THAT IF I DON'T DECLARE DODGE EVERY ROUND, I LOSE THE FEAT
I THINK YOU'RE MISUNDERSTAND NG THE.
I DECLARE MY DODGE ON YOU, BIG EARS!!
WAIT A MINUTE! HOW IN THE NINE HELLS DID YOU GO UP A LEVEL AFTER JUST ONE BATTLE?
BECAUSE I SINGLE HANDEDLY DEFEATED MINMAX AND HIS PURPLE WORM FAMILIAR, THAT'S HOW!
FUMBLES, I STILL THINK THAT YOU'RE ONLY SUPPOSED TO DECLARE DODGE DURING COMBAT IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE EXPECTED TO DECLARE IT EVERY SIX SECONDS FOR THE REST OF YOUR
I DECLARE MY DODGE ON YOU!!
WHAP
HEY!
I DECLARE MY DODGE ON YOU, THACO!!
WHAP
HEH HEH
ALRIGHT, CUT IT OUT
HA HA


SO HE ACTUALLY SAVED THACO'S LIFE, COMPLAINS.
WELL THAT'S GREAT, BUT LET'S NOT FORGET THAT HE'S ALSO THE ONE WHO BEAT HIM INTO NEGATIVE HIT POINTS IN THE FIRST PLACE
LOOK, NO ONE IS SAYING THAT THIS DWARF SHOULD GO UNPUNISHED FOR ALL THE DEATH HE'S CAUSED
THEN WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I DON'T KNOW. THIS IS COMPLETELY NEW FOR OUR CLAN. SO IS YOU USING THOSE MAGIC ITEMS.
HEY, I SAVED LIVES BY..
OF COURSE YOU SAVED LIVES! THAT'S NOT THE POINT! LOOK, OUR ANCESTORS HAD TO FIGHT ADVENTURERS TOO AND THEY DID IT WHILE MAINTAINING OUR TRADITIONS. THEY DIED FOR OUR WAYS
AND THE MOMENT YOU PICKED UP THAT +1 SHORT SWORD AND THAT SHIELD, YOU SAID THAT YOUR LIFE WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ALL OF OUR ANCESTORS.
CHIEF, YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT HOW I..
IF YOU START PROVING OUR RULES AS POINTLESS, THEN YOU'RE PROVING THAT COUNTLESS GOBLIN HEROES. LEGENDS THAT WE LOOK TO FOR INSPIRATION, ALL DIED POINTLESS DEATHS.
AND I WON'T BELIEVE THAT THEY... THAT MY FATHER, CHIEF KILLS-A-WEREBEAR, DIED FOR SOME MEANINGLESS RULE WHEN ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS PICK UP SOME TREASURE OUT OF THE POORLY LOCKED CHEST
LOOK, YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS, DON'T YOU? WHEN YOU USED OUR CLAN'S TREASURE, YOU FOUGHT LIKE AN ADVENTURER AND THAT MEANS THAT WHEN YOU EVENTUALLY DIE, YOU'LL BE FORGOTTEN LIKE AN ADVENTURER AND NO STATUE CAN EVER BE CARVED IN YOUR MEMORY
I KNOW. I KNEW IT WHEN I CLIMBED INTO THAT CHEST I CAN NEVER AGAIN HAVE HONOUR IN OUR CLAN
NOT QUITE AN OUTCAST, BUT NO LONGER A MEMBER.
...AN EMPTY GOBLIN AMOUNG US. FOR THIS IS OUR LAW.
I'M SO SORRY, COMPLAINS.
YOU'RE DOING WHAT YOU HAVE TO. I KNOW THAT AS CHIEF, YOU OFTEN HAVE TO DO THINGS THAT AREN'T EASY. YOU HAVE TO SHOW MORE COURAGE THAN ANY OF US. I UNDERSTAND
CHIEF HELP US PLEASE
YA
RIGHT
I DECLARE MY DODGE ON THIS GRASS MAGGOT!!
DAMMIT FUMBLES, IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY!
THUNT FEB '06

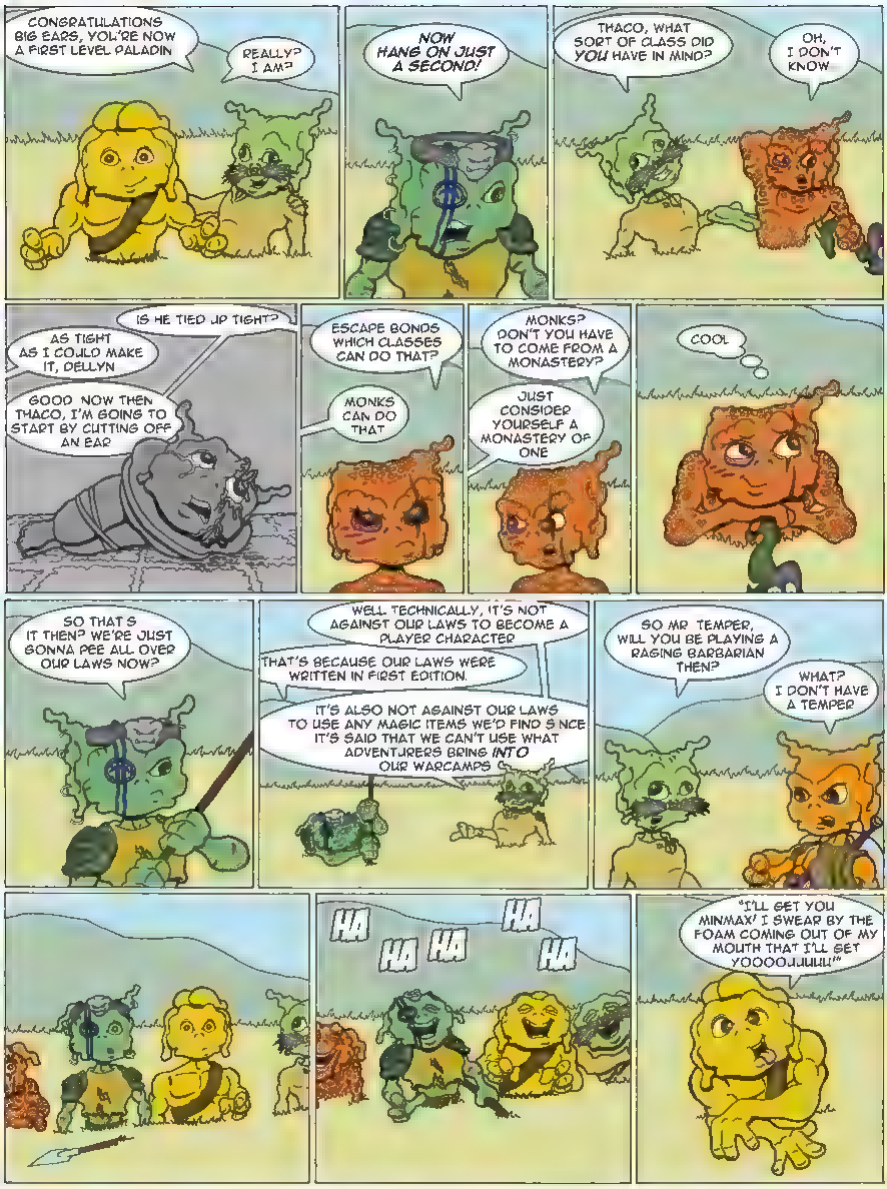

I GUESS WE'D BETTER GET GOING. IT'S AN EIGHT DAY HIKE BACK TO VILLAGE
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT THAT WE LOST THAT BATTLE, Y'KNOW
ISN'T IT?
COMPLAINS, YOU KNOW HOW YOU ALWAYS TEASE ME AND SAY THAT THE ONLY REASON THAT I'M CHIEF IS BECAUSE IT'S MY NAME?
HEY, I JUST LIKE TO COMPLAIN. AND OBVIOUSLY, COMPLAINING ABOUT NAMES IS WHAT I
I'M NOT THE REAL CHIEF OF OUR CLAN. I'M A LIAR
OF COURSE NOT EVERY CHIEF HAS HAD TO DEAL WITH THE LOSS OF A WARCAMP OR TWO.
WELL YOU'RE RIGHT
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? EVERYONE KNOWS THAT WHEN A CHIEF DIES, THE FORTUNE TELLER USES HER MAGICS TO SEE WHO WOULD MAKE THE BEST CHIEF OF OUR CLAN. IT USUALLY ENDS UP BEING THE CHILD OF THE PREVIOUS CHIEF AND SINCE YOU WERE KILLS-A-WEREBEAR'S SON IT WAS AN OBVIOUS CHOICE
YOU WERE OFFICIALLY CHOSEN BY OUR FORTUNE TELLER. YOU *ARE* OUR CHIEF
THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN THAT. I WAS JUST AN INFANT WHEN MY FATHER DIED IN BATTLE. THE FORTUNE TELLER USED HER MAGICS AND FOUND THE GOBLIN DESTINED TO LEAD US TO GLORY. BUT IT WASN'T ME. HER POWERS OF SEEING INTO THE FUTURE SHOWED HER THAT IF THIS OTHER GOBLIN WAS MADE CHIEF, THERE WOULD BE A GREAT CIVIL WAR IN OUR CLAN
A BATTLE BETWEEN THOSE WHO FOLLOW THE FORTUNE TELLER'S DECISION AND THOSE WHO THINK THAT I SHOULD LEAD DUE TO MY BLOODLINE. KILLS-A-WEREBEAR WAS THE BEST CHIEF WE'VE EVER HAD AND A LOT OF GOBLINS WOULD REFUSE TO FOLLOW ANYONE EXCEPT HIS OFFSPRING
THIS WAR... THIS BATTLE AMONGST OUR OWN KIND, WAS TO BE THE END OF OUR CLAN FOREVER
MY ***NAMING*** CEREMONY HADN'T HAPPENED YET. SO THE FORTUNE TELLER NAMED ME CHIEF, TATTOOED MY FACE WITH THE TRADITIONAL MARKINGS OF LEADERSHIP AND ANNOUNCED THAT I WAS THE BEST CHOICE. SHE KNEW THAT I WOULD NEVER BE A GREAT CHIEF, BUT IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO AVOID THE WAR AND SAVE THE CLAN.
THIS IS WHY OUR CLAN HAS DECLINED IN THE NINE YEARS THAT I'VE RULED. WHY UNDER KILLS-A-WEREBEAR'S RULE, OUR CLAN FOUGHT ADVENTURERS OF A MUCH HIGHER LEVEL AND THEREFORE WAS ATTACKED FAR LESS OFTEN, ALLOWING US MORE PEACE. IT'S WHY WE USED TO STRIKE FEAR IN THE HEARTS OF ADVENTURERS AS FAR OFF AS BRASSMOON CITY. NOW WE'RE JUST SOME ANONYMOUS CLAN IN THE WOODS WHO FIRST LEVEL ADVENTURERS CONSTANTLY USE AS PRACTISE. WE'RE A JOKE NOW AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE I'M NO CHIEF
I... I CAN'T BELIEVE IT
IT CAN'T BE TRUE

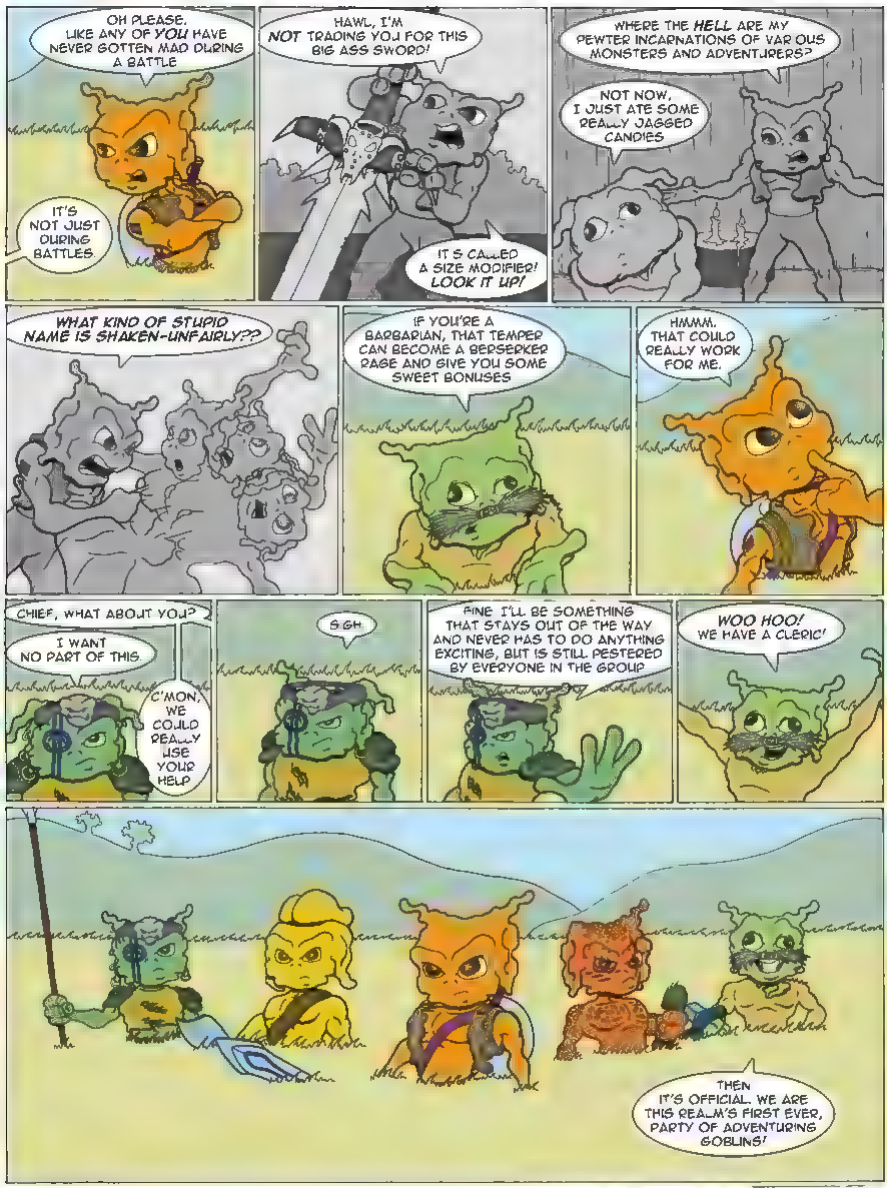
NONE OF US WILL EVEN SAY THE NAME OF OUR CLAN ANYMORE, IT CARRIES TOO MUCH SHAME
YA I REMEMBER WHEN I WAS YOUNG, THE WARRIORS WOULD SHOUT THE NAME OF OUR CLAN DURING BATTLE TO GIVE THEM COURAGE
IF THIS GOT OUT, IT WOULD DESTROY THE CLAN. BUT AFTER THAT BATTLE, I HAD TO TELL SOMEONE YOU CAN KEEP THIS TO YOURSELF, RIGHT?
YA. I GUESS SO.
GIMME BACK MY BLACKROOT, FUMBLES!
I DECLARE MY DODGE ON YOUR ABILITY TO TAKE BACK THE BLACKROOT!
YOU DON'T EVEN UNDERSTAND YOUR OWN FEAT!
YES I DO! I DECLARE DODGE ON YOUR SMELLY, YELLOW BUTT!
YOU ARE A HALFING'S WEE WEE AWAY FROM HAVING THAT MOUSTACHE SHOVED UP YOUR ASS!
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?
LUNCH
YA PLUS WE'RE DISCUSSING THE PROGRESSION OF SENOR VORPAL KICKASS'O
AND I'VE BEEN TRYING TO DECIDE IF THIS IS ENTERTAINING OR ANNOYING
SO HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
I'LL BE OKAY I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT YOU WALKING AROUND WITH THAT SHIELD
WHAT?
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT THING DOES DO YOU?
I DO
IT HURTS MY FACE.

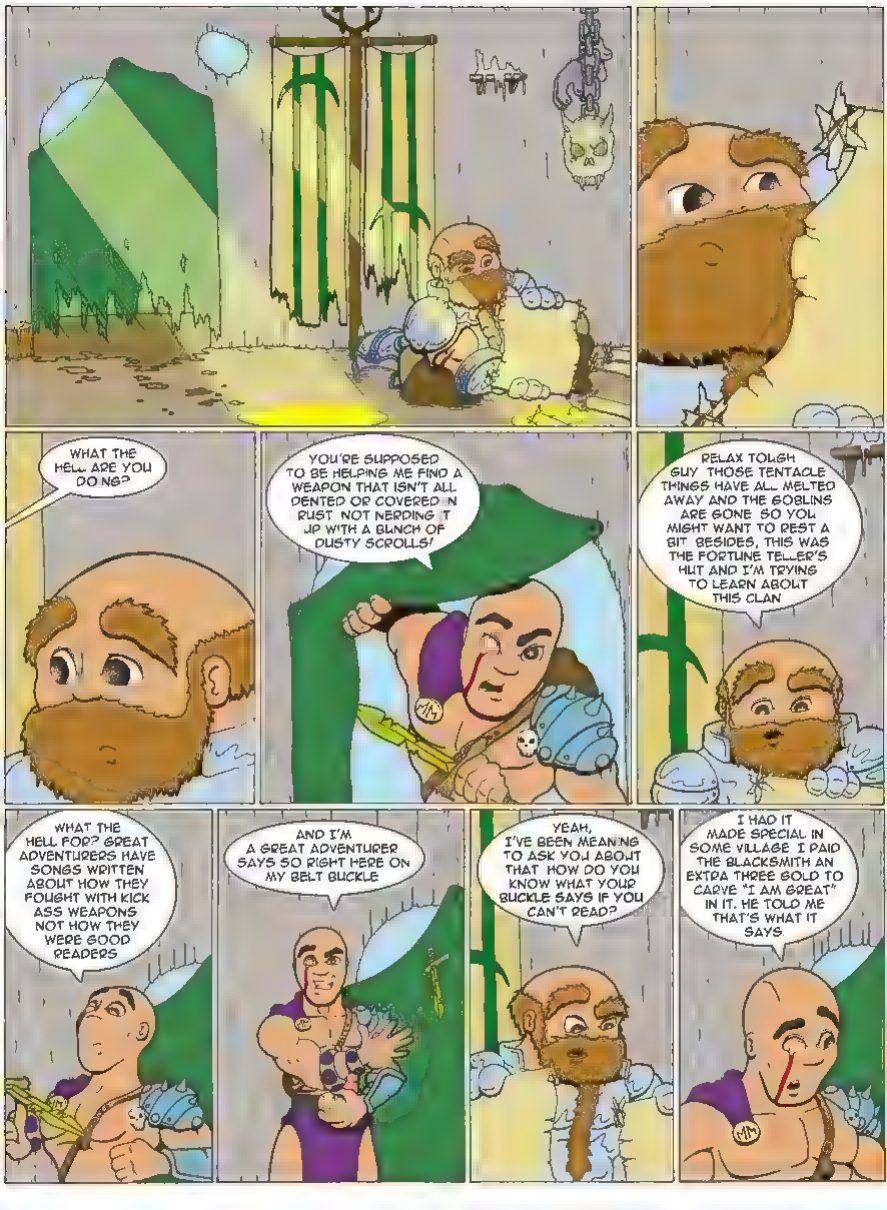
THAT THERE, IS A SHIELD OF WONDER IF, WHILE IT'S WIELDED, A MELEE WEAPON STRIKES IT'S OUTER SURFACE, A RANDOM, MAGICAL EVENT OCCURS
IT COULD SPEW FORTH GREEN FLAMES THAT COOK YOUR OPPONENT OR IT COULD TURN HIM INTO A RED DRAGON! YA NEVER KNOW!
WELL THIS THING SAVED MY LIFE AGAINST MINMAX!
CAUSE YOU GOT LUCKY!
NEXT TIME, A GATE TO HELL COULD OPEN RIGHT UNDER YOUR FEET! OR IT COULD EXPLODE AND KILL US ALL! THAT THING SHOULD BE BURIED!
"DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT HAPPENED TO THE ADVENTURER WHO BROUGHT IT INTO THE WARCAMP?"
CLANG
AAAAH!
KA-CRUNCH
"THE SHIELD RETURNED TO IT'S NATURAL STATE AFTER A FEW ROUNDS, BUT IT TOOK US ALL AFTERNOON TO CLEAN UP WHAT WAS LEFT OF THAT POOR ELF."
WELL I NEED IT FOR NOW I KNOW THAT CLAN PROCEDURE IS FOR ALL SURVIVING MEMBERS OF A WIPED OUT WARCAMP TO HEAD BACK TO THE VILLAGE, AND IF YOU GUYS WANT TO DO THAT, THAT'S FINE
BUT I'M GOING BACK FOR MINMAX. I'M GONNA HUNT HIM DOWN AND THIS TIME NOTHING IS GOING TO STOP ME
THUNTER 06


YOU'RE NOT GOING AFTER MINMAX!
YA, DO YOU WANT TO GET KILLED?
IN CASE YOU GUYS DIDN'T NOTICE, I WAS ABOUT TO KICK SOME SERIOUS ASS IN THE LAST BATTLE BEFORE YOU DRAGGED ME AWAY
AND BEFORE THAT, YOU WERE TRAPPED UNDER A STATUE
BESIDES, FORGATH AND MINMAX ARE PROBABLY LEVEL TWO NOW, WHICH MEANS THEY'RE EVEN MORE POWERFUL.
JUST LIKE ME, SENOR VORPAL KICKASS'O!
AND ONCE AGAIN, WE GOBLINS STAY RELATIVELY THE SAME WHILE ALL THE DAMN ADVENTURERS IN THE WORLD KEEP GOING UP LEVELS
IT'S TOO BAD THE REST OF YOU AREN'T PLAYER CHARACTERS LIKE ME
AND WHAT ABOUT FORGATH? I MEAN, HE'S PRO GOBLIN NOW, RIGHT?
WELL IT'S GREAT THAT HE SUDDENLY FELT BAD ABOUT ATTACKING US, BUT DO WE REALLY WANT TO JUST IGNORE THE FACT THAT HE KILLED A HELL OF A LOT OF GOBLINS?
SIGH NO ONE'S SAYING THAT
LOOK, IF THE DWARF STAYS OUT OF MY WAY, I'LL LEAVE HIM ALONE BUT IF HE TRIES TO HELP MINMAX
COMPLAINS, IF HE HELPS MINMAX, YOU'RE DEAD!
AND HE WILL HELP HIM!
WE'D BE THIS GOBLIN PARTY THAT COULD GO ON DUNGEON CRAWLS TO GAIN XP, BECOME HIGH LEVELED, AND KEEP OUR CLAN SAFE
WHAT?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
HUH?
WHAT? WHAT DID I SAY?
Y'KNOW, THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA. I COULD SPEND SOME TIME GOING UP A FEW LEVELS AND THEN GO AFTER MINMAX.

WE'D HAVE THE POWER TO ACTUALLY STOP ADVENTURERS. EVEN THE COCKY, HIGH LEVELED ONES.
WHOA! WHOA! GUYS, YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT BECOMING EXACTLY WHAT WE HATE!
NOT AT ALL! NO ONE'S TALKING ABOUT ATTACKING VILLAGES AND KILLING FOR XP. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT STOPPING ADVENTURERS FROM DOING JUST THAT!
WELL. WHAT ABOUT THE DANGER? WE COULD ALL BE KILLED!
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT, LET'S ALL GO BACK TO THE VILLAGE AND START PLANS FOR THE NEXT WARCAMP WHERE WE CAN ALL WAIT FOR MORE ADVENTURERS TO COME AND KILL US. THAT'S MUCH SAFER!
HEY FUMBLES, S THERE A CLASS THAT SPECIALIZES IN SARCASM? CAUSE I SHOULD TOTALLY BE THAT!
OH THAT'S RIGHT, YOU'D ALL HAVE TO CHOOSE CLASSES WELL... UH.
BIG EARS, ANY IDEAS WHAT YOU WANNA BE?
OH GEEZ
WELL.
ONE EYE?
I WANT THE POWER TO STOP INNOCENTS FROM DYING TO PROTECT OTHERS INSTEAD OF JUST STANDING AROUND HELPLESSLY
WHAT? IS THAT A DUMB ANSWER? IT'S STUPID, RIGHT?


CONGRATULATIONS BIG EARS, YOU'RE NOW A FIRST LEVEL PALADIN
REALLY? I AM?
NOW HANG ON JUST A SECOND!
THACO, WHAT SORT OF CLASS DID YOU HAVE IN MIND?
OH, I DON'T KNOW
IS HE TIED UP TIGHT?
AS TIGHT AS I COULD MAKE IT, DELLYN
GOOD NOW THEN THACO, I'M GOING TO START BY CUTTING OFF AN EAR
ESCAPE BONDS WHICH CLASSES CAN DO THAT?
MONKS CAN DO THAT
MONKS? DON'T YOU HAVE TO COME FROM A MONASTERY?
JUST CONSIDER YOURSELF A MONASTERY OF ONE
COOL
SO THAT'S IT THEN? WE'RE JUST GONNA PEE ALL OVER OUR LAWS NOW?
WELL TECHNICALLY, IT'S NOT AGAINST OUR LAWS TO BECOME A PLAYER CHARACTER
THAT'S BECAUSE OUR LAWS WERE WRITTEN IN FIRST EDITION.
IT'S ALSO NOT AGAINST OUR LAWS TO USE ANY MAGIC ITEMS WE'D FIND SINCE IT'S SAID THAT WE CAN'T USE WHAT ADVENTURERS BRING INTO OUR WARCAMPS
SO MR TEMPER, WILL YOU BE PLAYING A RAGING BARBARIAN THEN?
WHAT? I DON'T HAVE A TEMPER
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
"I'LL GET YOU MINMAX! I SWEAR BY THE FOAM COMING OUT OF MY MOUTH THAT I'LL GET YOOOOJUUUU!"

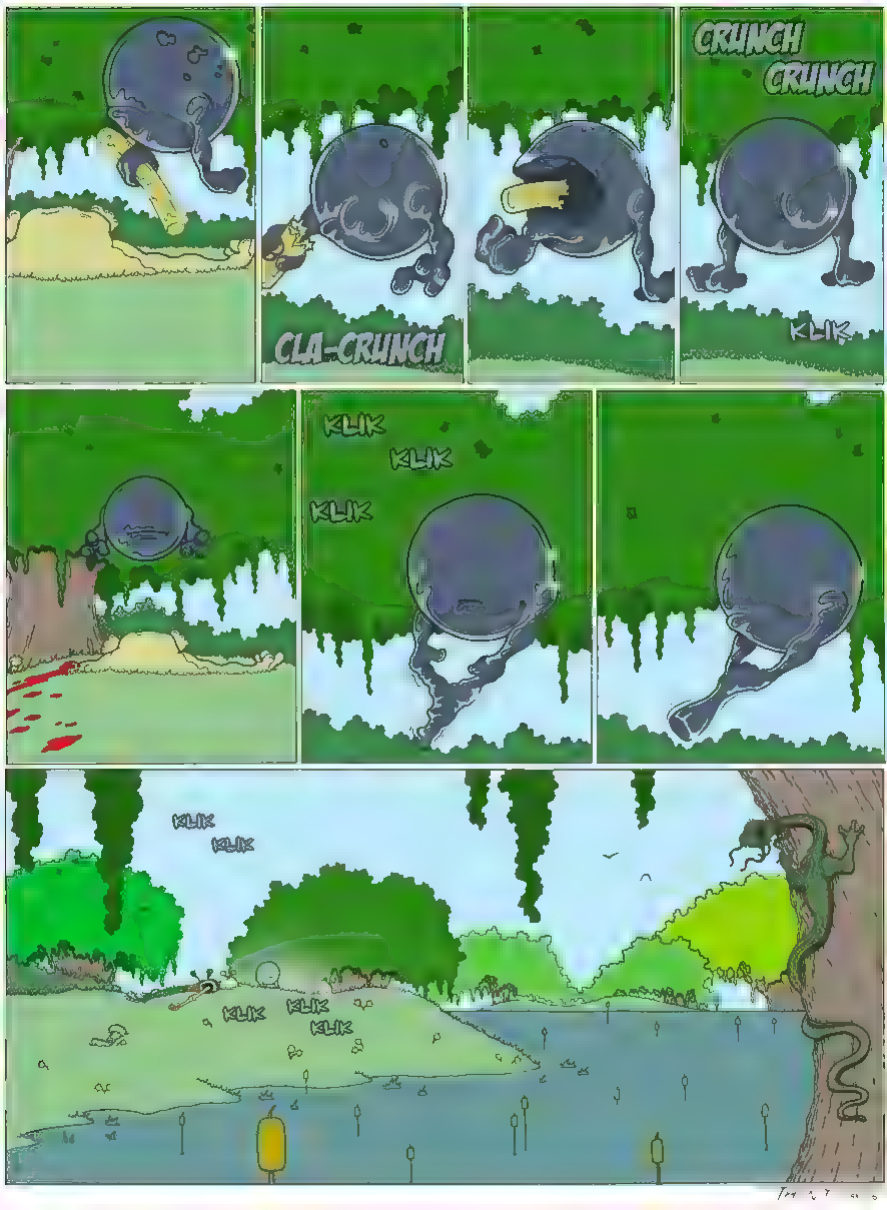

OH PLEASE. LIKE ANY OF YOU HAVE NEVER GOTTEN MAD DURING A BATTLE
IT'S NOT JUST DURING BATTLES
HAWL, I'M NOT TRADING YOU FOR THIS BIG ASS SWORD!
IT'S CALLED A SIZE MODIFIER! LOOK IT UP!
WHERE THE HELL ARE MY PEWTER INCARNATIONS OF VARIOUS MONSTERS AND ADVENTURERS?
NOT NOW, I JUST ATE SOME REALLY JAGGED CANDIES
WHAT KIND OF STUPID NAME IS SHAKEN-UNFAIRLY??
IF YOU'RE A BARBARIAN, THAT TEMPER CAN BECOME A BERSERKER RAGE AND GIVE YOU SOME SWEET BONUSES
HMMM. THAT COULD REALLY WORK FOR ME.
CHIEF, WHAT ABOUT YOU?
I WANT NO PART OF THIS
C'MON, WE COULD REALLY USE YOUR HELP
SIGH.
FINE. I'LL BE SOMETHING THAT STAYS OUT OF THE WAY AND NEVER HAS TO DO ANYTHING EXCITING, BUT IS STILL PESTERED BY EVERYONE IN THE GROUP
WOO HOO! WE HAVE A CLERIC!
THEN IT'S OFFICIAL. WE ARE THIS REALM'S FIRST EVER, PARTY OF ADVENTURING GOBLINS!
THUNT FEB 05


WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE HELPING ME FIND A WEAPON THAT ISN'T ALL DENTED OR COVERED IN RUST NOT NERDING IT UP WITH A BUNCH OF DUSTY SCROLLS!
RELAX TOUGH GUY THOSE TENTACLE THINGS HAVE ALL MELTED AWAY AND THE GOBLINS ARE GONE SO YOU MIGHT WANT TO REST A BIT BESIDES, THIS WAS THE FORTUNE TELLER'S HUT AND I'M TRYING TO LEARN ABOUT THIS CLAN
WHAT THE HELL POD? GREAT ADVENTURERS HAVE SONGS WRITTEN ABOUT HOW THEY FOUGHT WITH KICK ASS WEAPONS NOT HOW THEY WERE GOOD READERS
AND I'M A GREAT ADVENTURER SAYS SO RIGHT HERE ON MY BELT BUCKLE
YEAH, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU ABOUT THAT HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR BUCKLE SAYS IF YOU CAN'T READ?
I HAD IT MADE SPECIAL IN SOME VILLAGE I PAID THE BLACKSMITH AN EXTRA THREE GOLD TO CARVE "I AM GREAT" IN IT. HE TOLD ME THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS

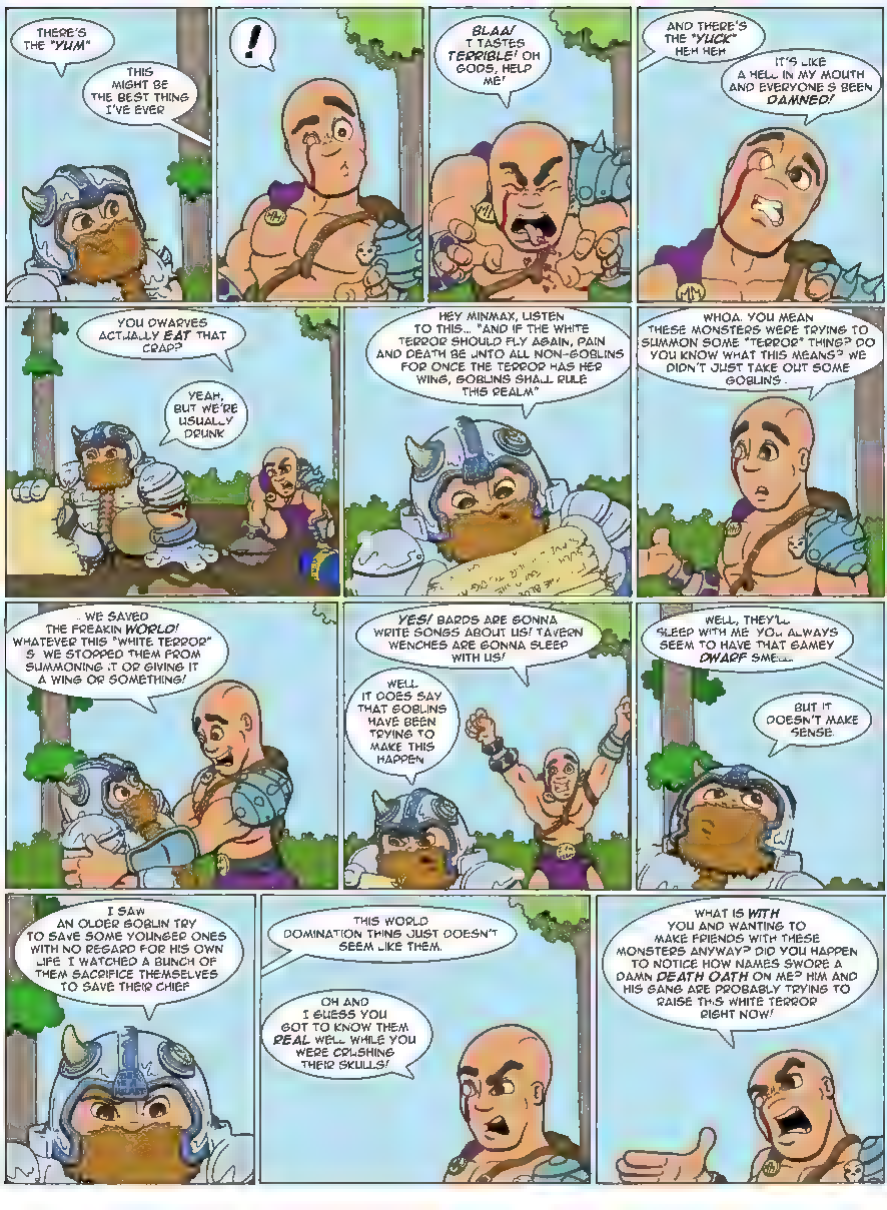
THAT IS WHAT IT SAYS, RIGHT?
NOPE IT SAYS THAT YOU'RE SEXUALLY ATTRACTED TO SMALL ANIMALS
WHAT?!?
AND THEN IT GOES ON TO SAY THAT YOU SOIL YOURSELF OFTEN, YOUR REAL NAME IS BITCHY MCWHINE AND YOU'RE THE WILLING PROPERTY OF SOMEONE NAMED DOMINANT TED
SONOVA CRAP! I'M GONNA KILL THAT BLACKSMITH! I'M A SECOND LEVEL FIGHTER NOW AND I DESERVE BETTER TREATMENT THAN
HMM?
THAT IS SO ASS WHAT YOU JUST DID THAT IS TOTALLY ASS

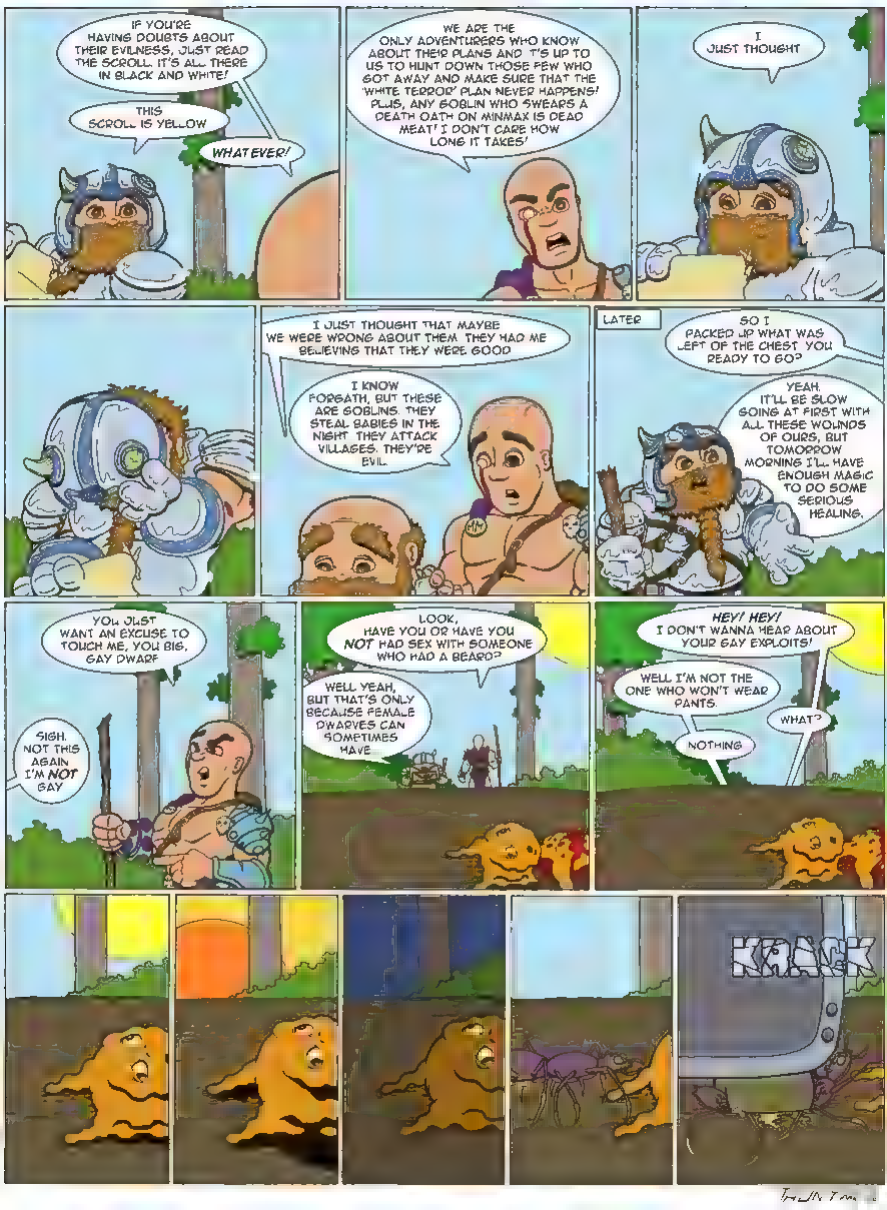
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
I JUST NEED TO REST FOR A MOMENT, THEN I'LL TRY TO CLEAN YOU OFF
UH
I FEEL SICK AND THIS WOUND HURTS TOO MUCH
IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING, THESE ARE GOBLIN ARROWS IN THESE DEAD HUMANS, BUT THEY'RE NOT FROM OUR CLAN. SO DON'T GO BLAMING ME, OKAY?
LONG AGO, THIS AREA BELONGED TO THE VIPER CLAN. GOBLINS WHO LOVED RAIDING PASSING MERCHANTS AND CARAVANS.
APPARENTLY, WHEN I WAS A BABY AND WHEN WE WERE ON THE EVE OF WAR WITH THE VIPER CLAN, CHIEF KILLS-A-WEREBEAR MADE A DEAL OF PEACE.
CRUNCH
AND THEY MOVED FURTHER SOUTH
TO THIS DAY, YOU CAN STILL FIND A LOT OF DEAD HUMANS, HALFLINGS AND.

HEY, EATING METAL, INSTANTLY HEALS YOU UP? THAT'S A (COFF) HANDY TRICK.
KLIK
IT'S GETTING REALLY COLD OUT HE
KLIK
KLIK
THUMP
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
RUNCH
WHA?
OH THANKS, BUT T DOESN'T WORK LIKE THAT FOR GOBLINS.
I THINK I'M BLEEDING TOO MUCH IT'S GETTING HARD TO STAY AWAKE.


CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CLA-CRUNCH
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK

WELL... I FOUND MY BACKPACK, IT WAS BY THE LAKE. DID YOU FIND ANY USABLE WEAPONS YET?
THERE'S A BIT OF COIN IN HERE, BUT THAT'S IT. NAMES TOOK THE ONLY WEAPON IN THE CHEST
I MEAN, LOOK AT THIS CRAP HE LEFT US! A MUG? WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO, HIT PEOPLE UP SIDE THE HEAD WITH A FREAKIN' MUG?
...AME
KUNK
OW!
WATCH IT, YOU HILL GIANT'S ASS HAIR! I ALMOST DROPPED THIS!
OH NO, A DUSTY, CLAY POT. THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE
THIS DUSTY POT CONTAINS YUMYUCK MOSS HIGHLY PRIZED BY DWARVES!
YOUR RACE COLLECTS MOSS? TELL ME AGAIN HOW DWARVES GOT THEIR REPUTATION FOR BEING SO TOUGH?
YUMYUCK MOSS GROWS IN DANK CAVES AND IS VERY RARE. I FOUND THIS POT OF IT IN THE FORTUNE TELLER'S HUT
WHAT DO YOU DO WITH IT?
YOU EAT IT
SNIFF SNIFF
SMELLS SWEET LIKE BERRIES
MMM!
HEY, THIS STUFF IS REALLY GOOD!


THERE'S THE "YUM"
THIS MIGHT BE THE BEST THING I'VE EVER
!
BLAA! T TASTES TERRIBLE! OH GODS, HELP ME!
AND THERE'S THE "YUCK" HEH HEH
IT'S LIKE A HELL IN MY MOUTH AND EVERYONE S BEEN DAMNED!
YOU DWARVES ACTUALLY EAT THAT CRAP?
YEAH, BUT WE'RE USUALLY DRUNK
HEY MINMAX, LISTEN TO THIS... "AND IF THE WHITE TERROR SHOULD FLY AGAIN, PAIN AND DEATH BE UNTO ALL NON-GOBLINS FOR ONCE THE TERROR HAS HER WING, GOBLINS SHALL RULE THIS REALM"
WHOA. YOU MEAN THESE MONSTERS WERE TRYING TO SUMMON SOME "TERROR" THING? DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS? WE DIDN'T JUST TAKE OUT SOME GOBLINS .
WE SAVED THE FREAKIN WORLD! WHATEVER THIS "WHITE TERROR" S WE STOPPED THEM FROM SUMMONING IT OR GIVING IT A WING OR SOMETHING!
YES! BARDS ARE GONNA WRITE SONGS ABOUT US! TAVERN WENCHES ARE GONNA SLEEP WITH US!
WELL IT DOES SAY THAT GOBLINS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN
WELL, THEY'L.. SLEEP WITH ME YOU ALWAYS SEEM TO HAVE THAT GAMEY DWARF SME...
BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.
I SAW AN OLDER GOBLIN TRY TO SAVE SOME YOUNGER ONES WITH NO REGARD FOR HIS OWN LIFE I WATCHED A BUNCH OF THEM SACRIFICE THEMSELVES TO SAVE THEIR CHIEF
THIS WORLD DOMINATION THING JUST DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THEM.
OH AND I GUESS YOU GOT TO KNOW THEM REAL WELL WHILE YOU WERE CRUSHING THEIR SKULLS!
WHAT IS WITH YOU AND WANTING TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH THESE MONSTERS ANYWAY? DID YOU HAPPEN TO NOTICE HOW NAMES SWORE A DAMN DEATH OATH ON ME? HIM AND HIS GANG ARE PROBABLY TRYING TO RAISE THIS WHITE TERROR RIGHT NOW!


IF YOU'RE HAVING DOUBTS ABOUT THEIR EVILNESS, JUST READ THE SCROLL. IT'S ALL THERE IN BLACK AND WHITE!
THIS SCROLL IS YELLOW
WHATEVER!
WE ARE THE ONLY ADVENTURERS WHO KNOW ABOUT THEIR PLANS AND IT'S UP TO US TO HUNT DOWN THOSE PEW WHO GOT AWAY AND MAKE SURE THAT THE 'WHITE TERROR' PLAN NEVER HAPPENS! PLUS, ANY GOBLIN WHO SWEARS A DEATH OATH ON MINMAX IS DEAD MEAT! I DON'T CARE HOW LONG IT TAKES!
I JUST THOUGHT
I JUST THOUGHT THAT MAYBE WE WERE WRONG ABOUT THEM. THEY HAD ME BELIEVING THAT THEY WERE GOOD
I KNOW FORBATH, BUT THESE ARE GOBLINS. THEY STEAL BABIES IN THE NIGHT. THEY ATTACK VILLAGES. THEY'RE EVIL.
LATER
SO I PACKED UP WHAT WAS LEFT OF THE CHEST. YOU READY TO GO?
YEAH. IT'LL BE SLOW GOING AT FIRST WITH ALL THESE WOUNDS OF OURS, BUT TOMORROW MORNING I'LL HAVE ENOUGH MAGIC TO DO SOME SERIOUS HEALING.
YOU JUST WANT AN EXCUSE TO TOUCH ME, YOU BIG, GAY DWARF
SIGH. NOT THIS AGAIN. I'M NOT GAY
LOOK, HAVE YOU OR HAVE YOU NOT HAD SEX WITH SOMEONE WHO HAD A BEARD?
WELL YEAH, BUT THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE FEMALE DWARVES CAN SOMETIMES HAVE
HEY! HEY! I DON'T WANNA HEAR ABOUT YOUR GAY EXPLOITS!
WELL I'M NOT THE ONE WHO WON'T WEAR PANTS
WHAT?
NOTHING
KNACK

SO IF WE HEAD EAST FOR JUST A DAY OR TWO, IT'LL BRING US NEAR THE SWAMP OF SILENCE AND EVERYONE KNOWS THAT THERE ARE A TON OF OLD DUNGEON CRAWLS OUT THERE
I DUNNO COMPLAINS, THAT ROUTE WOULD ALSO BRING US DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO BRASSMOON CITY
OH, WE'LL STEER CLEAR OF THE CITY AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, WE'LL BE BACK AT THE VILLAGE WITH A FEW LEVELS UNDER OUR BELTS
WELL TO BE HONEST, IT'S NOT REALLY THE CITY THAT WORRIES ME
DUNGEON CRAWLS ARE PLACES *DESIGNED* TO KILL ADVENTURERS IN THE MOST CREATIVE WAYS POSSIBLE
I'M SURE WE CAN HANDLE IT, CHIEF
OH REALLY WELL LET'S ASSUME HYPOTHETICALLY, THAT YOU'RE WALKING DOWN A DUNGEON HALLWAY TOWARD A TREASURE CHEST AT THE END.
WHOA, HEY! WHY IS COMPLAINS GETTING FIRST CRACK AT THIS CHEST? HE ALREADY *HAS* TWO MAGIC ITEMS! I WANNA BE AT THIS CHEST TOO!
CA-CLICK
OH, FOR THE LOVE OF FUMBLES, I'M JUST TRYING TO MAKE A POINT TO COMPLAINS, THAT'S ALL.
ANYWAYS, SUPPOSE YOU'RE APPROACHING THIS CHEST AND ALL OF A SUDDEN, *BOOM*, SOME SORT OF MAGICAL, EXPLOSIVE TRAP GOES OFF! WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO *THEN*, HUH?
AN EXPLOSIVE TRAP? I WAS NOWHERE *NEAR* THAT CHEST! I'M IN ANOTHER ROOM!

THERE'S ANOTHER ROOM? I SEARCH THAT ROOM WITH VORPAL, HERE
HEY GOOD IDEA
SIGH
THACO, WILL YOU PLEASE TELL THESE TWO THAT THEY'RE BEING IDIOTS?
YOU TWO ARE BEING IDIOTS!
THANK YOU!
WHY ARE YOU SEARCHING THAT ROOM WHEN THE BIG TREASURE IS CLEARLY IN THAT CHEST IN THE HALLWAY? WHY ELSE WOULD IT BE TRAPPED WITH EXPLOSIVES?
OH YOU'RE RIGHT
YEAH, GOOD THINKING
UH HELLO! I'M THE ONE WHO'S BLEEDING TO DEATH IN THE HALLWAY! ISN'T ANYONE GOING TO HEAL ME?
OH, OF COURSE, CHIEF, I USE MY PALADIN MAGICS AND
THERE IS NO TREASURE CHEST!!
SO IT WAS AN ILLUSION!
THIS DUNGEON CRAWL IS HARD
I ATTACK THE DARKNESS!

THUNT MAR. 06

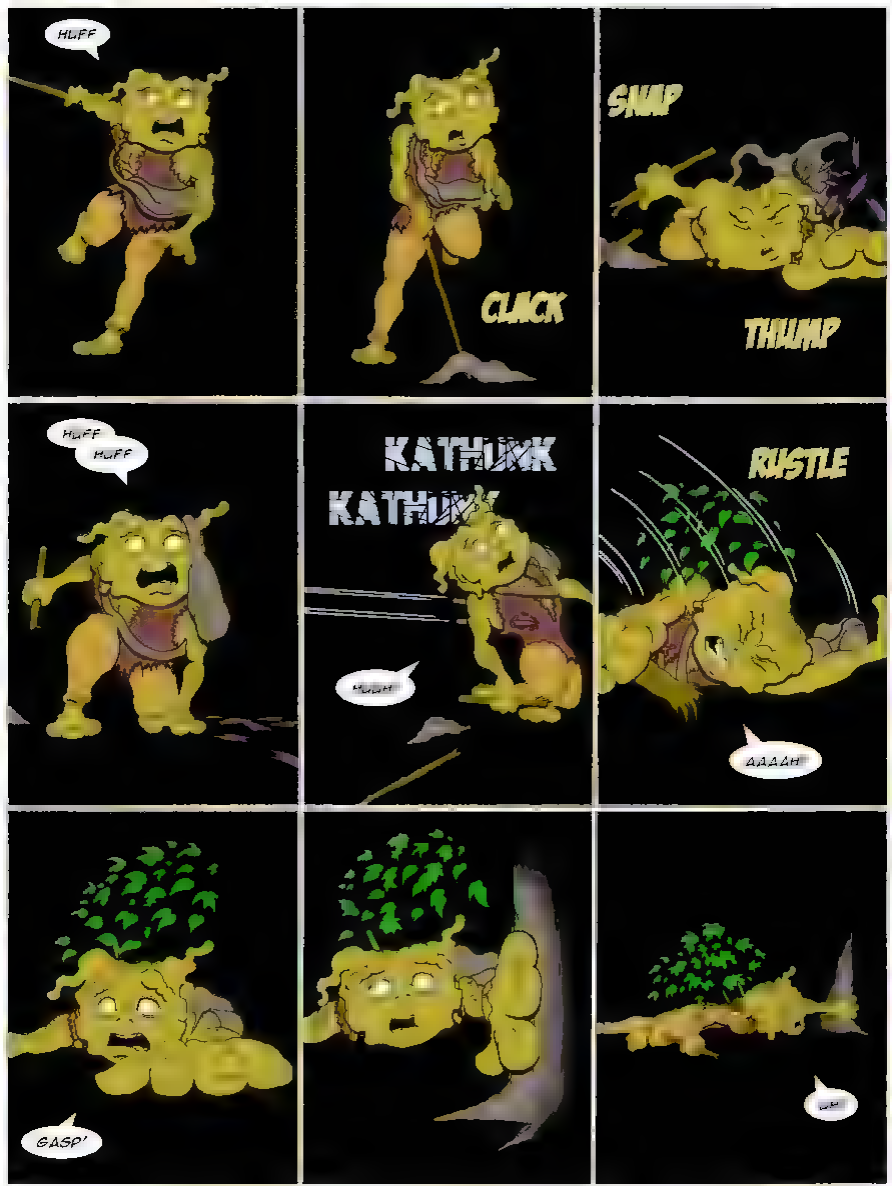
KLICK

GASP!
AAAAAAAAA!!
AM I ALIVE?
I HAVE REANIMATED YOU FOR A SHORT TIME, EVIL CREATURE. YOU ARE BOUND BY HOLY MAGICS TO EITHER PERFORM A SINGLE TASK OR ANSWER ANY NUMBER OF QUESTIONS FOR ME. WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
WE WERE ATTACKED BY A PARTY OF ADVENTURERS
AND DID ANY GOBLINS SURVIVE THIS ATTACK?
I DON'T KNOW, I WAS KILLED BEFORE THE BATTLE ENDED.
I ASSUME THAT THIS CAMP IS A BRANCH FROM SOME HIDDEN VILLAGE?
YES
WHAT IS THE LOCATION OF THIS VILLAGE?
WHAT?!
OH NO PLEASE! THE VILLAGE IS PEACEFUL! WE RAISE OUR YOUNG THERE!
YOU ARE FORCED TO ANSWER, EVIL CREATURE
EIGHT DAYS SOUTH, AT THE FAR END OF THE BLOODRAIN FOREST YOU'LL FIND THE VILLAGE HIDDEN AMONGST THE LARGEST TREES

I KNOW WHO YOU ARE. YOU'RE THE PALADIN FROM MY VISION. THE ONE WHO'S CURSED
BUT YOU'RE KILLING INNOCENTS AS WELL AS EVIL. HOW CAN YOU DO THIS AND STILL KEEP YOUR STATUS AS A PALADIN?
RETURN TO DEATH, EVIL CREATURE
I SUFFER NO CURSE. I HAVE BEEN GIFTED IN ORDER TO COMPLETE MY MISSION OF DESTROYING ALL EVIL. I HAVE CHOSEN THIS SOB..N CLAN AS MY CURRENT TARGET AND I HAVE NEVER FAILED TO ERADICATE A TARGET BEFORE MOVING ONTO THE NEXT
HEY ASKS NONSENSE. I MANAGED TO GATHER UP SOME BLACKROOT. IT'LL MAKE A GREAT SNACK FOR OUR TRIP BACK TO THE VIL..AGE
WERE YOJ TALK.NG TO SOMEONE? I THOUGHT I HEARD VOICES
ASKS NONSENSE?
THUNTHAR 06

KLINK
KLINK
YOU'RE NOT ASKS. WHO ARE YOU?
THERE YOU ARE, TAPS! I WAS GETTING WORRIED ABOUT
YOU.
OH GODS, IT'S AN ADVENTURER
WHAT!?
IT'S AN ADVENTURER!

TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
AAK!
KATHUNK
KATHUNK
KATHUNK
SHWUNK
OOF!
HUFF
HUFF
ASKS?
ASKS!
RUUUUN!
TAPS
RUUUUUUUU
KRUNCH
HUFF


HUFF
CLICK
SNAP
THUMP
HUFF
HUFF
KATHUNK
KATHUNK
HUGH!
RUSTLE
AAAAH
GASP!
UH!

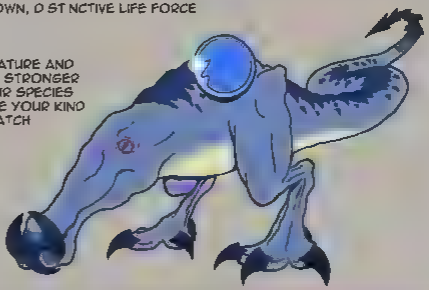
AAAA!
HACOFF!
CLUNK
HUFF!
HUFF
THUMP
THUMP
NO! GET AWAY!
THUMP
AAAH! AH
KRUNCH

AM I DREAMING?
YOU'RE GIVING ME A NEW ARM, AREN'T YOU? I CAN TELL. THERE'S A WEIRD KIND OF CONNECTION GROWING BECAUSE OF IT. I CAN SEE SOME OF THE PAST OF YOUR RACE. A TIME AND PLACE FAR FROM HERE NOW. WHERE THERE ARE OTHERS OF YOUR KIND
HEY. IS THAT YOU?
OH WAIT, THAT'S ANOTHER OF YOUR KIND. DUH!

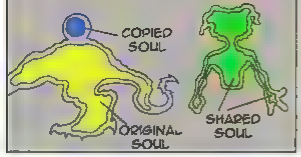
OH I GET IT, YOU TRAVEL THROUGH DIFFERENT REALITIES LOOKING FOR OTHER LIFE FORMS. WHEN YOU FIND ONE THAT YOU LIKE, YOU MIMIC IT PHYSICALLY. BUT ONLY A LITTLE, CAUSE WHEN YOU SHAPE CHANGE BEYOND YOUR SPHERE SHAPE, YOU CAN'T FLY. PLUS, YOU CAN'T FORM ANY DETAILED OR COMPLEX SHAPES. EVENTUALLY, YOU CREATE A SMALLER SPHERE WHICH IS MADE OUT OF THE SAME MATERIAL AS YOU. YOU ATTACH THE NEW SPHERE ONTO THE CREATURE AND THEN LEAVE. THE YOUNG SPHERE SPENDS THE NEXT FEW DAYS COPYING, BUT NOT HARMING, A FRAGMENT OF THAT CREATURE'S SOUL. AS IT ALTERS ITS COPY OF THE SOUL FRAGMENT TO FORM ITS OWN, UNIQUE SOUL, IT GAINS ITS OWN INDIVIDUAL COLOUR AS WELL AS IT'S OWN SPECIFIC WEAKNESSES AND STRENGTHS. WHEN THE TASK IS COMPLETED, THE YOUNGLING SEPERATES FROM THE CREATURE AS A NOW LIVING BEING WITH IT'S OWN, DISTINCTIVE LIFE FORCE.

THIS PROCESS DOESN'T HURT THE "PARENT" CREATURE AND ACTUALLY LEAVES THEM HEALTHIER AND SLIGHTLY STRONGER THAN BEFORE. WITHOUT THIS SOUL MIMICRY, YOUR SPECIES WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO CREATE NEW LIFE, SINCE YOUR KIND CAN'T FORM THEIR OWN SOULS FROM SCRATCH.

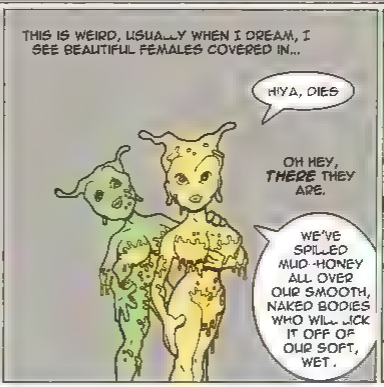
BUT YOU'RE NOT PERFORMING THIS WHOLE PROCEDURE WITH ME, I CAN FEEL IT. WHILE YOU ARE CREATING A SEPERATE HUNK OF WHATEVER YOU GUYS ARE MADE OF, YOU'RE NOT GIVING IT THE ABILITY TO COPY MY SOUL.



INSTEAD, IT'S BECOMING A PERMANENT PART OF MY BODY JUST LIKE MY OTHER LIMBS. YOU'RE NOT CREATING NEW LIFE. YOU'RE CREATING A BODY PART THAT'S ANIMATED BY MY OWN LIFE FORCE. JUST LIKE THE REST OF ME. AND SINCE IT'S BEING ALTERED BY THE PRESENCE OF MY OWN SOUL, IT WON'T SHARE YOUR ACIDIC BLOOD WEAKNESS. BUT I CAN SENSE THAT WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS CONSIDERED FORBIDDEN BY YOUR SPECIES. YOU COULD BE KILLED FOR DOING THIS, BUT YOU'RE DOING IT ANYWAY TO SAVE MY LIFE! WOW



THIS IS WEIRD, USUALLY WHEN I DREAM, I SEE BEAUTIFUL FEMALES COVERED IN...



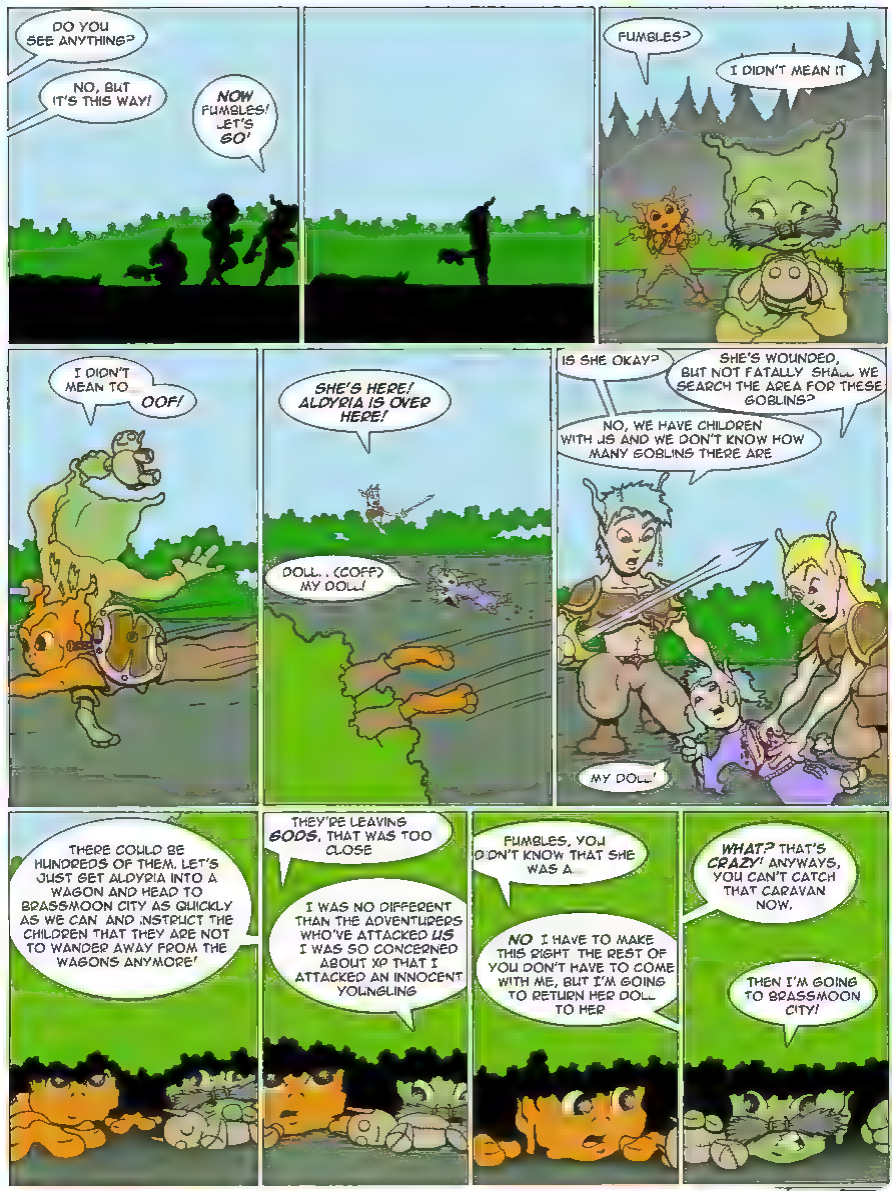
UG, I ALWAYS WAKE UP BEFORE THE GOOD PART
GASP!
AAH!
SH-CHING
AAAH!
SH-CHING
AAAAH!
SH-CHING
FOR THE LOVE OF THE GODS, WATCH WHERE I POINT THOSE SWORDS!
OKAY, THINK CALM THOUGHTS!
CALM THOUGHTS CALM THOUGHTS
SH-CHING
WHEW
HMMM
MAYBE I CAN MAKE IT CREATE A SHAPE THAT ISN'T SO SCARY

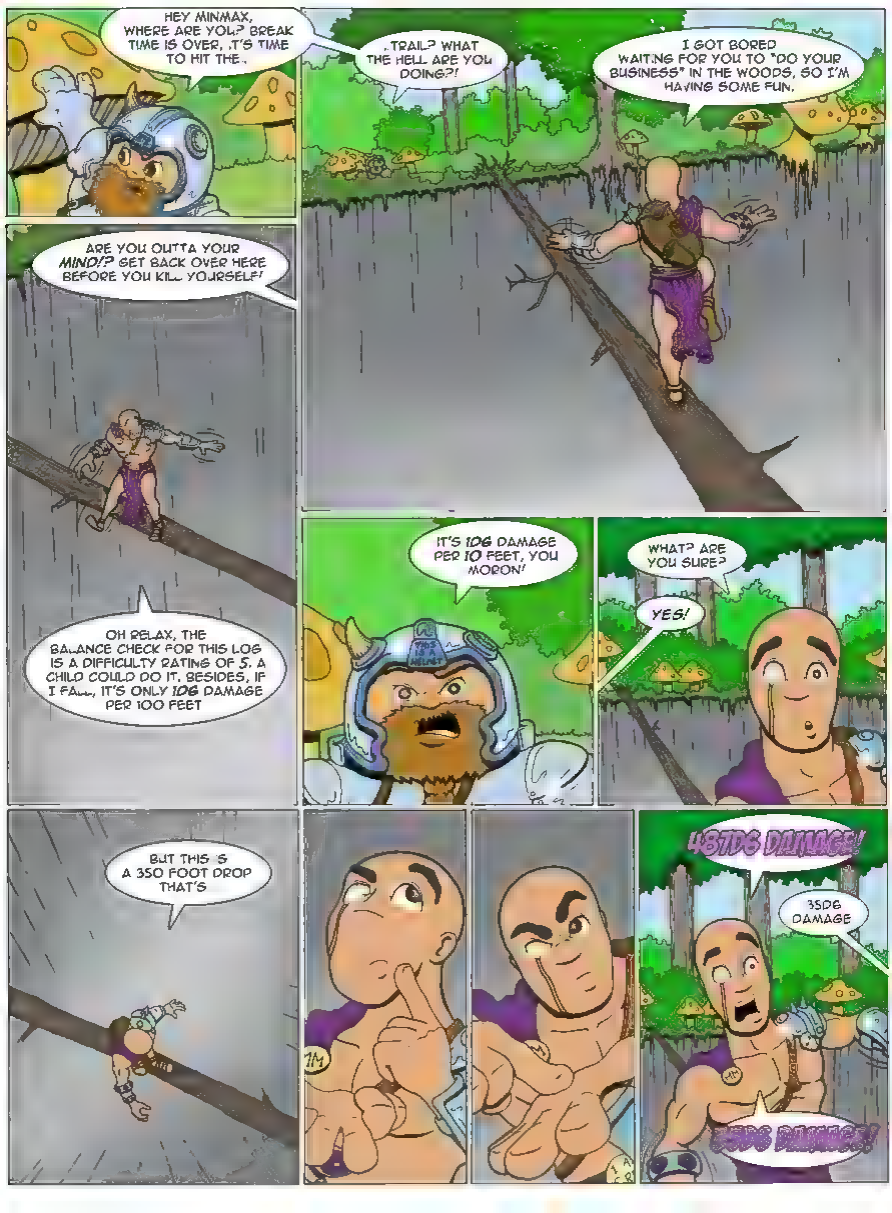
AAAAH!
SH-CHING
CALM THOUGHTS
CALM THOUGHTS
SH-CHING
KLIK
DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT I ACCIDENTALLY CREATED A VERY SCARY FLOWER THAT IS EXTREMELY POISONOUS WHEN IT'S MIXED WITH.
WELL.
EXTREME POISON
I THINK THE HAND IS SUBCONSCIOUSLY TURNING INTO A WEAPON WHEN I GET SCARED, IN CASE I NEED TO PROTECT MYSELF OR SOMETHING.
SEEZ, THIS THING COULD GO OFF AT ANY TIME! I GUESS I'D BETTER START USING MY OTHER HAND WHEN I WIPE MY BUTT!
PLUS, I'D BETTER GET USED TO USING THIS HAND FOR WHEN I.
WELL, THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
WHAT!
SCRATCH AN ITCH! I WAS GONNA SAY "WHEN I SCRATCH AN ITCH"!
KLIK
Y'KNOW, FOR A FLOATING, METAL ORB, YOU SURE HAVE A PERVERTED MIND!
THUNT apr 06

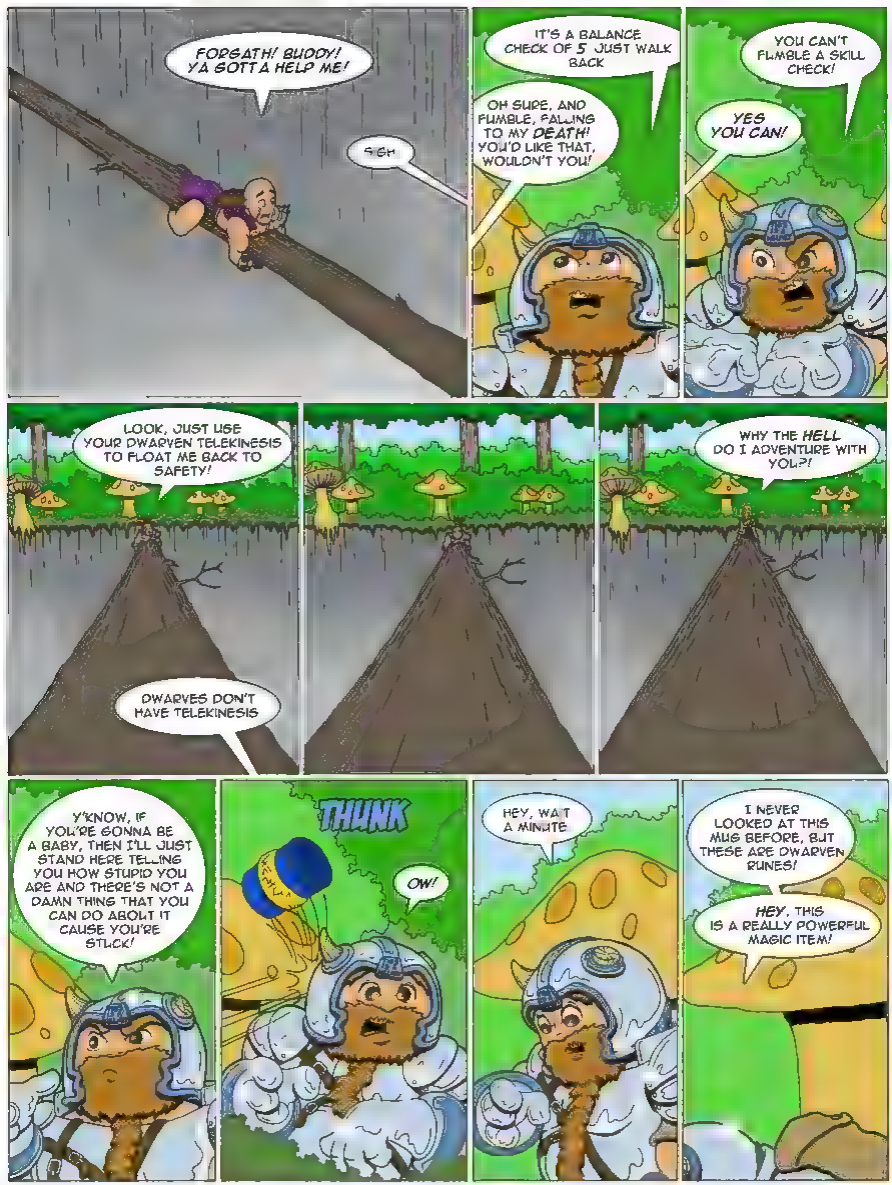
ARE THEY STILL OUT THERE?
ARE THEY STILL OUT THERE!?
SHHHH
YES
HEY!
SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP BEFORE WE ALL END UP ON THE POINTED ENDS OF ELVEN BLADES!
YOU THINK IT'S AN ADVENTURING PARTY?
NO, THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM. PROBABLY A CARAVAN OF SOME KIND
THEY'RE PRETTY WELL ARMED FOR A CARAVAN
I BET THEY'VE HEARD OF SENOR VORPAL KCASS'O AND NOW THEY'RE AFTER ME CAUSE THEY KNOW THAT IF THEY CAN KILL ME, THEY'LL BE FAMOUS!
WELL IF IT'S A FIGHT THEY WANT
I DOUBT THAT THESE ELVES ARE AFTER YOU, FUMBLES. IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE JUST GOING TO PASS US BY AND HEAD TOWARD BRASSMOON CITY
BUT THINK OF THE XP! I BET A BATTLE LIKE THAT COULD KNOCK ME UP TO 320 LEVEL AND THE REST OF YOU UP TO 300!

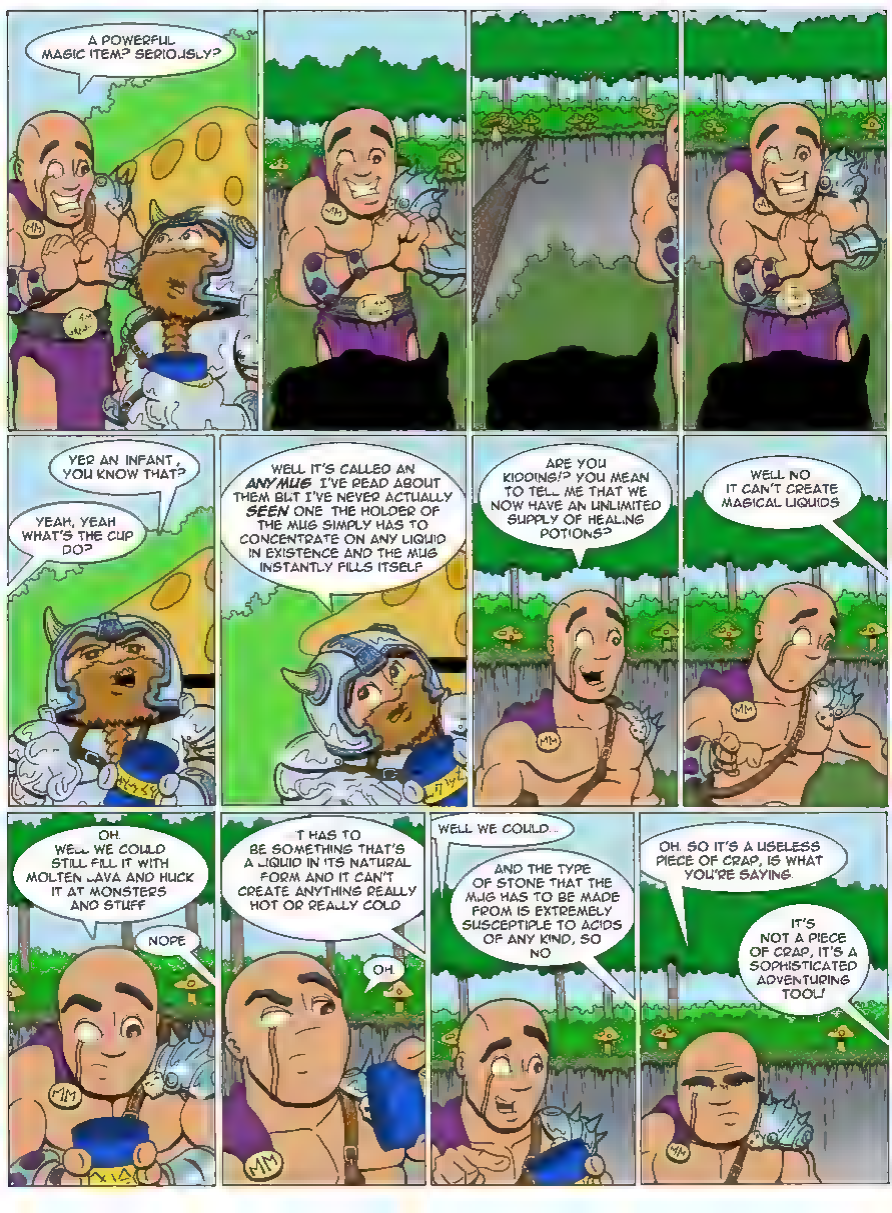
I AGREE WITH COMPLAINS WE'LL HIDE BEHIND THESE TREES AND WAIT FOR THEM TO PASS US
BUT
THAT IS AN ORDER
FINE
SO NOW WE GET OUR FIRST TASTE OF ADVENTURING AND IT'S SPENT HIDING BEHIND TREES
HEY, IF THOSE ELVES HAVE NOTHING AGAINST ME, THEN I HAVE NOTHING AGAINST THEM.
AND THEN THERE'S THE FACT THAT THEY'D KICK OUR BUTTS
WELL THERE'S THAT TOO
QUIET, YOU TWO!
OH NO, I CAN HEAR SOMEONE COMING THIS WAY!
SHHH!
I KNEW IT! THESE HEARTLESS ADVENTURERS ARE AFTER ME!
ALRIGHT ELVEN WARRIORS, YOU FACE THE DEADLY WRATH OF...
SENOR VORPAL...
SCRUNCH!

WHAT?
NO
OH NO
I
, I DIDN'T KNOW
OH GODS!
I DIDN'T KNOW
THUD
FATHER! GOBLINS!
-7
CHIEF, WE NEED YOUR HEALING! NOW!
WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME!
I KNOW
CHUNT
-8
THE OTHER YOUNGLING IS RUNNING OFF TO GET THE OTHER ELVES AND .
I KNOW!
MAGLUBIYET
CURE LIGHT WOUNDS!
READY YOUR BOWS AND BLADES! SAVE YOUNG ALOYRIA! NO MERCY TO THE MURDERERS!
IS SHE OKAY?
SHE'S GONNA LIVE
THEN WE'RE LEAVING!


DO YOU SEE ANYTHING?
NO, BUT IT'S THIS WAY!
NOW FUMBLES! LET'S GO!
FUMBLES?
I DIDN'T MEAN IT
I DIDN'T MEAN TO
OOF!
SHE'S HERE! ALDYRIA IS OVER HERE!
DOLL.. (COFF) MY DOLL!
IS SHE OKAY?
SHE'S WOUNDED, BUT NOT FATALLY SHALL WE SEARCH THE AREA FOR THESE GOBLINS?
NO, WE HAVE CHILDREN WITH US AND WE DON'T KNOW HOW MANY GOBLINS THERE ARE
MY DOLL!
THERE COULD BE HUNDREDS OF THEM. LET'S JUST GET ALDYRIA INTO A WAGON AND HEAD TO BRASSMOON CITY AS QUICKLY AS WE CAN AND INSTRUCT THE CHILDREN THAT THEY ARE NOT TO WANDER AWAY FROM THE WAGONS ANYMORE!
THEY'RE LEAVING GODS, THAT WAS TOO CLOSE
I WAS NO DIFFERENT THAN THE ADVENTURERS WHO'VE ATTACKED US I WAS SO CONCERNED ABOUT XP THAT I ATTACKED AN INNOCENT YOUNGLING
FUMBLES, YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT SHE WAS A...
NO I HAVE TO MAKE THIS RIGHT THE REST OF YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME WITH ME, BUT I'M GOING TO RETURN HER DOLL TO HER
WHAT? THAT'S CRAZY! ANYWAYS, YOU CAN'T CATCH THAT CARAVAN NOW.
THEN I'M GOING TO BRASSMOON CITY!

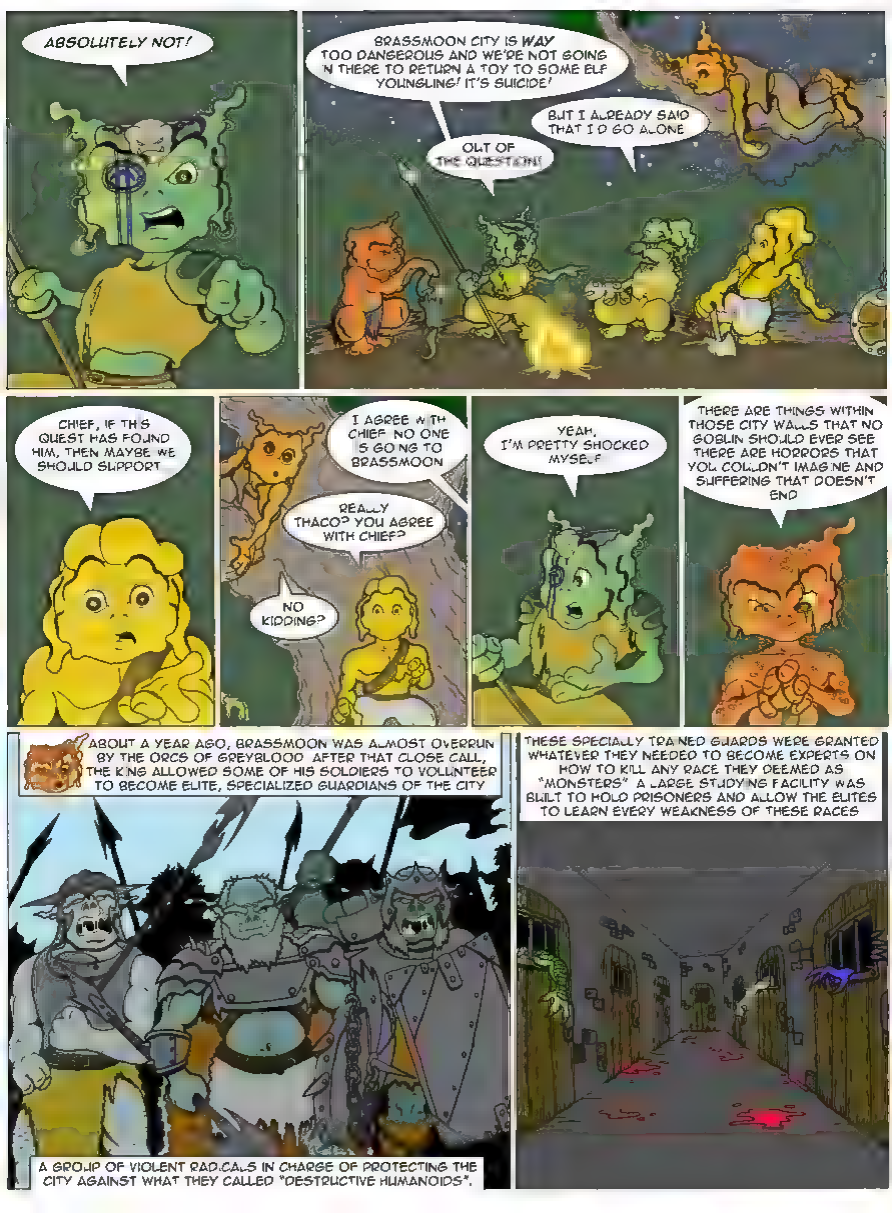

HEY MINMAX, WHERE ARE YOU? BREAK TIME IS OVER, IT'S TIME TO HIT THE.
.TRAIL? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
I GOT BORED WAITING FOR YOU TO "DO YOUR BUSINESS" IN THE WOODS, SO I'M HAVING SOME FUN.
ARE YOU OUTTA YOUR MIND!? GET BACK OVER HERE BEFORE YOU KILL YOURSELF!
OH RELAX, THE BALANCE CHECK FOR THIS LOG IS A DIFFICULTY RATING OF 5. A CHILD COULD DO IT. BESIDES, IF I FALL, IT'S ONLY 10D6 DAMAGE PER 100 FEET
IT'S 10D6 DAMAGE PER 10 FEET, YOU MORON!
WHAT? ARE YOU SURE?
YES!
BUT THIS IS A 350 FOOT DROP THAT'S
48D6 DAMAGE!
35D6 DAMAGE
35D6 DAMAGE?!


FORGATH! BUDDY! YA GOTTA HELP ME!
SIGH
IT'S A BALANCE CHECK OF 5 JUST WALK BACK
OH SURE, AND FUMBLE, FALLING TO MY DEATH! YOU'D LIKE THAT, WOULDN'T YOU!
YOU CAN'T FUMBLE A SKILL CHECK!
YES YOU CAN!
LOOK, JUST USE YOUR DWARVEN TELEKINESIS TO FLOAT ME BACK TO SAFETY!
DWARVES DON'T HAVE TELEKINESIS
WHY THE HELL DO I ADVENTURE WITH YOU?!
Y'KNOW, IF YOU'RE GONNA BE A BABY, THEN I'LL JUST STAND HERE TELLING YOU HOW STUPID YOU ARE AND THERE'S NOT A DAMN THING THAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT CAUSE YOU'RE STUCK!
THUNK
WEHH!
OW!
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE
I NEVER LOOKED AT THIS MUG BEFORE, BUT THESE ARE DWARVEN RUNES!
HEY, THIS IS A REALLY POWERFUL MAGIC ITEM!


A POWERFUL MAGIC ITEM? SERIOUSLY?
YEP AN INFANT, YOU KNOW THAT?
YEAH, YEAH WHAT'S THE CUP DO?
WELL IT'S CALLED AN ANYMUG I'VE READ ABOUT THEM BUT I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN ONE THE HOLDER OF THE MUG SIMPLY HAS TO CONCENTRATE ON ANY LIQUID IN EXISTENCE AND THE MUG INSTANTLY FILLS ITSELF
ARE YOU KIDDING!? YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THAT WE NOW HAVE AN UNLIMITED SUPPLY OF HEALING POTIONS?
WELL NO IT CAN'T CREATE MAGICAL LIQUIDS
OH. WELL WE COULD STILL FILL IT WITH MOLTEN LAVA AND HUCK IT AT MONSTERS AND STUFF
NOPE
IT HAS TO BE SOMETHING THAT'S A LIQUID IN ITS NATURAL FORM AND IT CAN'T CREATE ANYTHING REALLY HOT OR REALLY COLD
OH.
WELL WE COULD...
AND THE TYPE OF STONE THAT THE MUG HAS TO BE MADE FROM IS EXTREMELY SUSCEPTIBLE TO ACIDS OF ANY KIND, SO NO
OH. SO IT'S A USELESS PIECE OF CRAP, IS WHAT YOU'RE SAYING
IT'S NOT A PIECE OF CRAP, IT'S A SOPHISTICATED ADVENTURING TOOL!

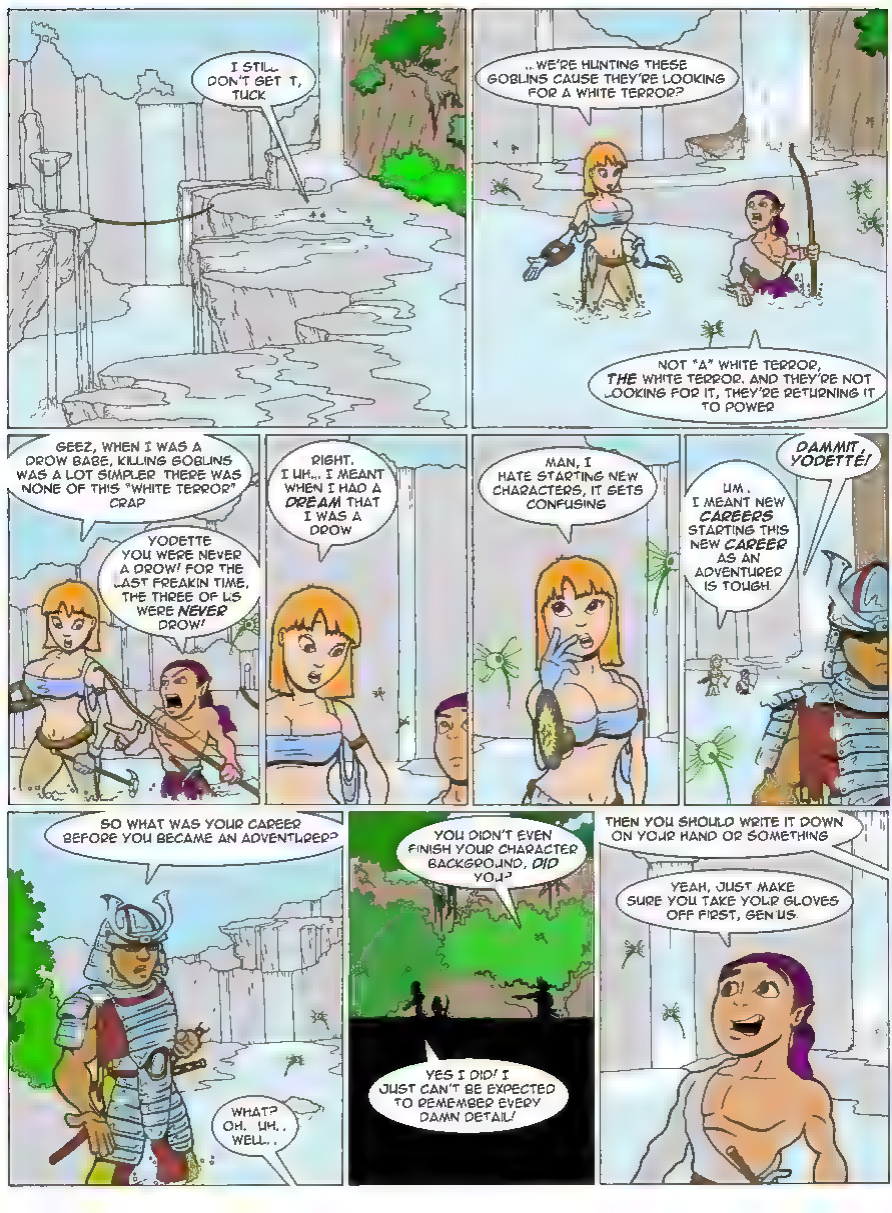
DON'T YOU GET IT? WE COULD DRINK OF THE FINEST DWARVEN ALES EVERY NIGHT! AND NOW WE ALWAYS HAVE CLEAN WATER TO WASH OUR WOUNDS AFTER BATTLES!
HMMM
SO IF I WERE TO CONCENTRATE ON SAY
OGRE PISS
BA-WUMF
SNIFF
SNIFF
EEWW! OGRE PISS!
OH GEEZ, SORRY 'BOUT THAT
GIMME THE MUG
DON'T WORRY, I'LL JUST SUMMON YOU SOME CLEAN WATER TO FIX THAT!
BA-WUMF
THERE YA GO, BUDDY
THANKS, I
SNIFF
SNIFF
THAT WAS MORE OGRE PISS!
HEE HEE
GIMME THAT PIECE OF CRAP!
IT'S NOT A PIECE OF CRAP, IT'S A SOPHISTICATED ADVENTURING TOOL!

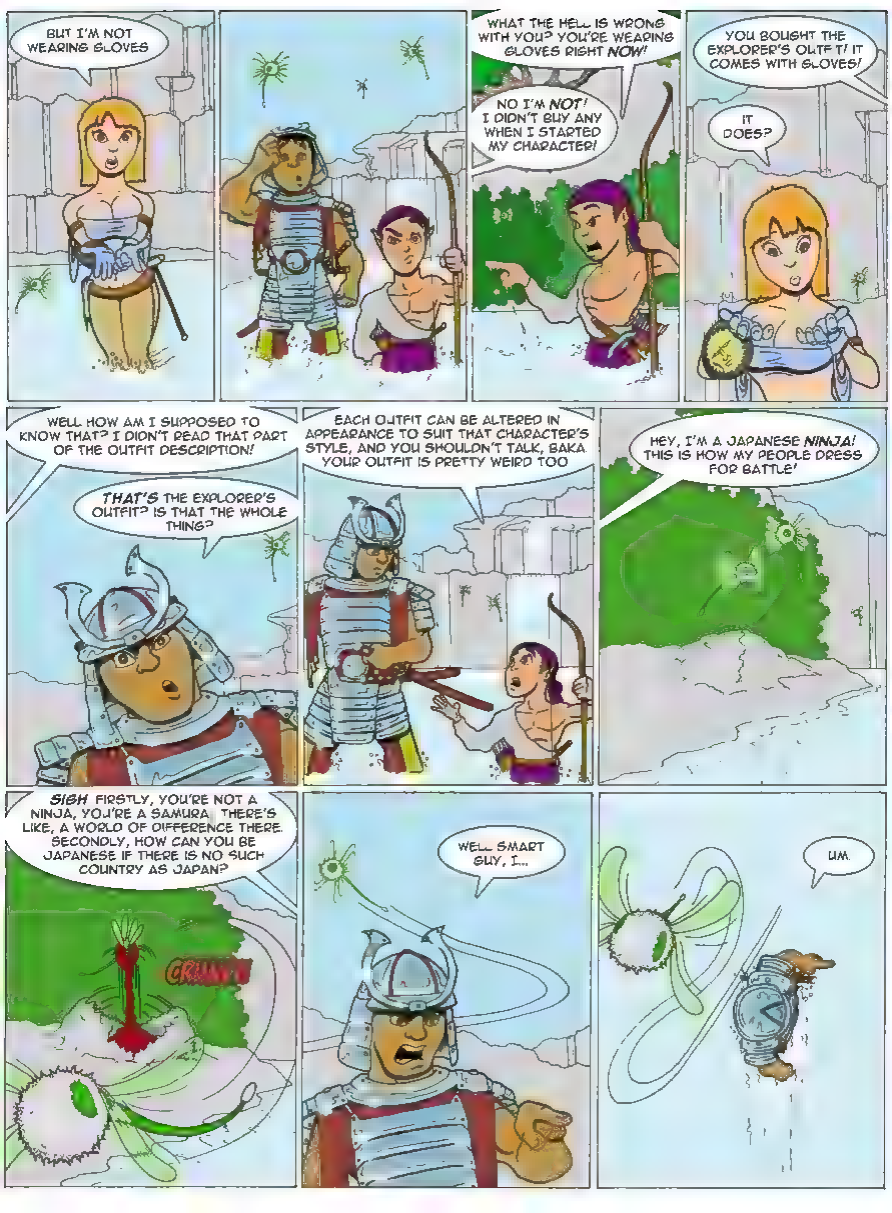
THUNT APR 04


ABSOLUTELY NOT!
BRASSMOON CITY IS WAY TOO DANGEROUS AND WE'RE NOT GOING IN THERE TO RETURN A TOY TO SOME ELF YOUNGLING! IT'S SUICIDE!
BUT I ALREADY SAID THAT I'D GO ALONE
OUT OF THE QUESTION!
CHIEF, IF TH'S QUEST HAS FOUND HIM, THEN MAYBE WE SHOULD SUPPORT
I AGREE WITH CHIEF. NO ONE S GO NG TO BRASSMOON
REALLY THACO? YOU AGREE WITH CHIEF?
NO KIDDING?
YEAH, I'M PRETTY SHOCKED MYSELF
THERE ARE THINGS WITHIN THOSE CITY WALLS THAT NO GOBLIN SHOULD EVER SEE THERE ARE HORRORS THAT YOU COULDN'T IMAGINE AND SUFFERING THAT DOESN'T END
ABOUT A YEAR AGO, BRASSMOON WAS ALMOST OVERRUN BY THE ORCS OF GREYBLOOD AFTER THAT CLOSE CALL, THE KING ALLOWED SOME OF HIS SOLDIERS TO VOLUNTEER TO BECOME ELITE, SPECIALIZED GUARDIANS OF THE CITY
A GROUP OF VIOLENT RADICALS IN CHARGE OF PROTECTING THE CITY AGAINST WHAT THEY CALLED "DESTRUCTIVE HUMANOIDS".
THESE SPECIALLY TRAINED GUARDS WERE GRANTED WHATEVER THEY NEEDED TO BECOME EXPERTS ON HOW TO KILL ANY RACE THEY DEEMED AS "MONSTERS" A LARGE STUDYING FACILITY WAS BUILT TO HOLD PRISONERS AND ALLOW THE ELITES TO LEARN EVERY WEAKNESS OF THESE RACES

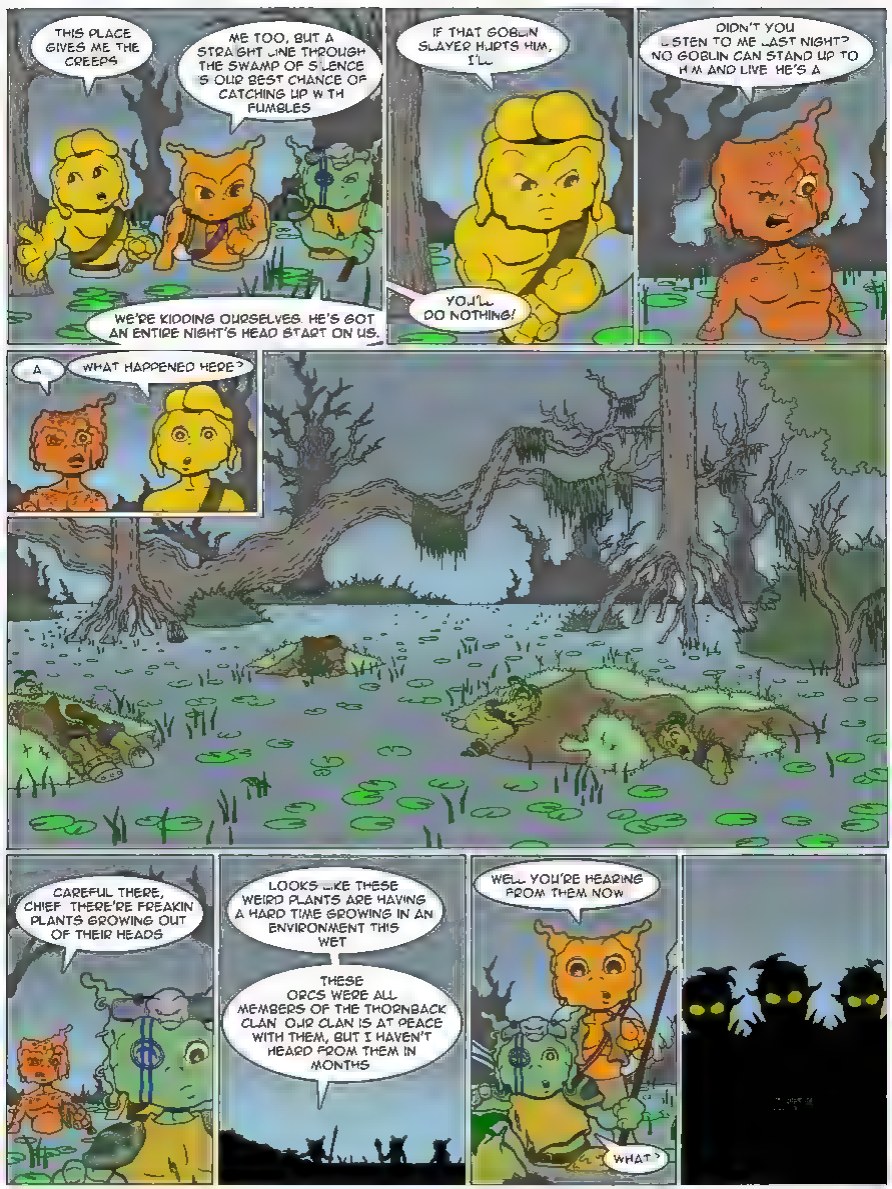
DEEP WITHIN THESE DUNGEONS OF BRASSMOON ARE MEMBERS OF MANY RACES ORCS OGRES GNOLLS AND MANY MORE INCLUDING GOBLINS
THEY LEARN ABOUT US BY PERFORMING TORTUROUS EXPERIMENTS ON THESE CREATURES THE HEALTHIER ONES CAN LAST MONTHS BEFORE THEY FINALLY DIE
THE CAPTAIN OF THIS GROUP IS A HIGH LEVEL RANGER WHOSE FAVOURED ENEMY S GOBLINS HE'S DEDICATED HIS LIFE TO HUNTING DOWN OUR KIND AND HE KNOWS EVERYTHING THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT HOW TO KILL US
THEY CALL HIM THE GOBLIN SLAYER
SO NO ONE IS GOING TO BRASSMOON CITY NO ONE S GETTING TIED UP NO ONE IS..
HEY ARE YOU OK?
AH!
SHIIINGG
OH GODS! CHEF I'M SORRY! YOU JUST YOU JUST STARTLED ME
MY APOLOGIES
I JUST NEED SOME SLEEP I GUESS

I THINK WE ALL NEED SOME SLEEP TOMORROW WE'LL HEAD FOR THE SWAMP OF SILENCE
YAWN
VORPAL, YOU GOTTA STOP BEATING YOURSELF UP ABOUT THIS THOSE ELVES SAID THAT THE YOUNGLING WOULD BE ALRIGHT
I DON'T KNOW WHY I FUMBLE SO MUCH. I CAN'T HELP BEING A DANGER TO MY FRIENDS AND NOW THAT ELF GIRL
I THOUGHT THAT AS SENOR VORPAL KICKASS'O, I COULD AVOID ALL THAT, BUT IF I CAN'T MAKE THIS RIGHT
..THEN I'M JUST FUMBLES I'LL ALWAYS JUST BE FUMBLES
THE NEXT MORNING
OH NO
I HAVE TO MAKE THIS RIGHT. I'LL MEET YOU ALL AT THE VILLAGE.
GUYS, WAKE UP!


I STILL DON'T GET IT, TUCK
..WE'RE HUNTING THESE GOBLINS CAUSE THEY'RE LOOKING FOR A WHITE TERROR?
NOT "A" WHITE TERROR, THE WHITE TERROR. AND THEY'RE NOT LOOKING FOR IT, THEY'RE RETURNING IT TO POWER
GEEZ, WHEN I WAS A DROW BABE, KILLING GOBLINS WAS A LOT SIMPLER. THERE WAS NONE OF THIS "WHITE TERROR" CRAP
YODETTE YOU WERE NEVER A DROW! FOR THE LAST FREAKIN TIME, THE THREE OF US WERE NEVER DROW!
RIGHT. I UH... I MEANT WHEN I HAD A DREAM THAT I WAS A DROW
MAN, I HATE STARTING NEW CHARACTERS, IT SETS CONFUSING
UM. I MEANT NEW CAREERS STARTING THIS NEW CAREER AS AN ADVENTURER IS TOUGH
DAMMIT YODETTE!
SO WHAT WAS YOUR CAREER BEFORE YOU BECAME AN ADVENTURER?
WHAT? OH. UH.. WELL..
YOU DIDN'T EVEN FINISH YOUR CHARACTER BACKGROUND, DID YOU?
YES I DID! I JUST CAN'T BE EXPECTED TO REMEMBER EVERY DAMN DETAIL!
THEN YOU SHOULD WRITE IT DOWN ON YOUR HAND OR SOMETHING
YEAH, JUST MAKE SURE YOU TAKE YOUR GLOVES OFF FIRST, GENIUS.


BUT I'M NOT WEARING GLOVES
WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU? YOU'RE WEARING GLOVES RIGHT NOW!
NO I'M NOT! I DIDN'T BUY ANY WHEN I STARTED MY CHARACTER!
YOU BOUGHT THE EXPLORER'S OUTFIT! IT COMES WITH GLOVES!
IT DOES?
WELL HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW THAT? I DIDN'T READ THAT PART OF THE OUTFIT DESCRIPTION!
THAT'S THE EXPLORER'S OUTFIT? IS THAT THE WHOLE THING?
EACH OUTFIT CAN BE ALTERED IN APPEARANCE TO SUIT THAT CHARACTER'S STYLE, AND YOU SHOULDN'T TALK, BAKA YOUR OUTFIT IS PRETTY WEIRD TOO
HEY, I'M A JAPANESE NINJA! THIS IS HOW MY PEOPLE DRESS FOR BATTLE!
SIGH FIRSTLY, YOU'RE NOT A NINJA, YOU'RE A SAMURA THERE'S LIKE, A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE THERE. SECONDLY, HOW CAN YOU BE JAPANESE IF THERE IS NO SUCH COUNTRY AS JAPAN?
CRUNCH
WELL SMART GUY, I...
UM.

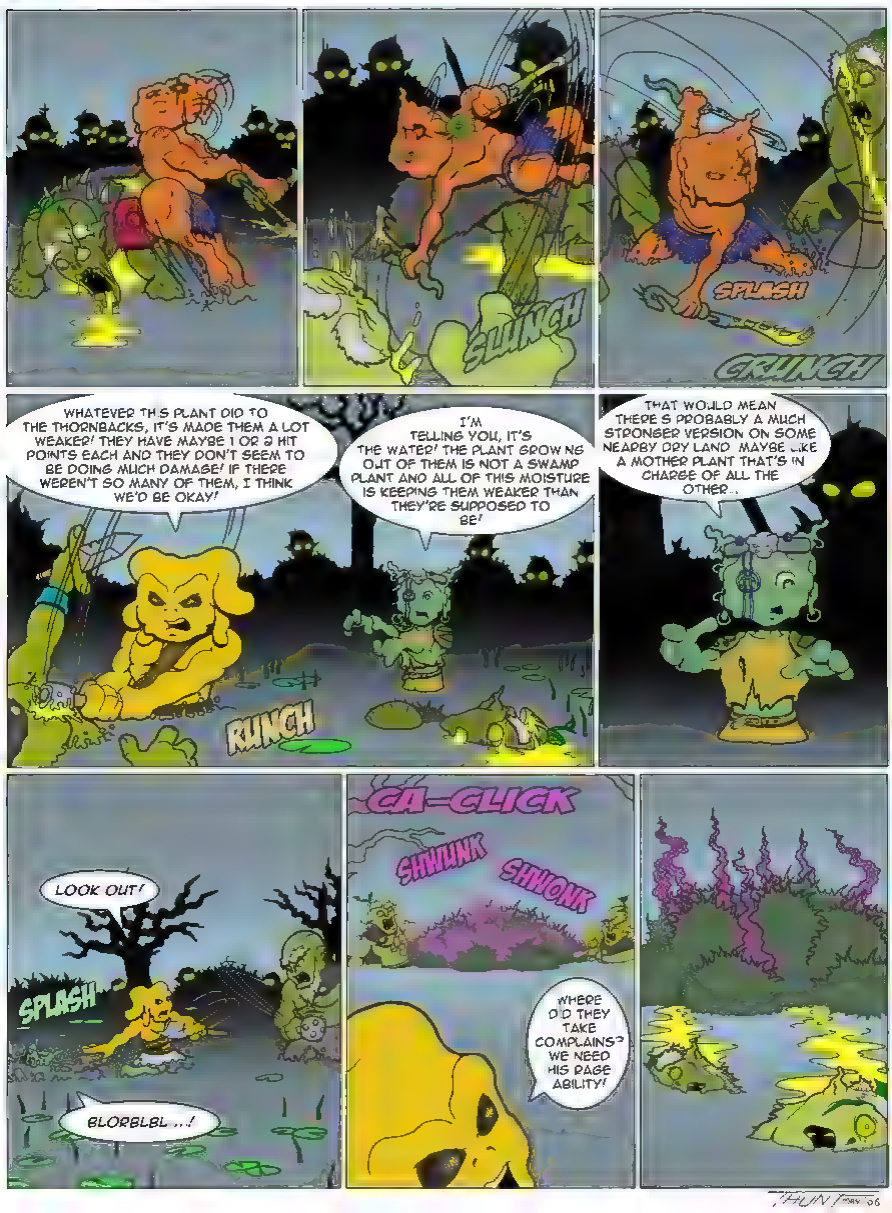
COOL, I THINK YOU BROKE BAKA.
SHUT-UP!
OH WOW! A FIRESAP TREE!
THE SAP FROM THIS TREE GLOWS AT NIGHT. IF YOU HAVE ENOUGH OF IT, YOU CAN GLOB IT ONTO A STICK AND MAKE A FLAMELESS TORCH.
AND EATING TOO MUCH OF IT GIVES YOU A TUMMY ACHE AND MAKES YOUR POOP GLOW.
I TELL YA, IT'S A WHOLE NEW LEVEL OF CREEPY WHEN YOUR POOP GLOWS
KLIK
OKAY, WE SHOULD BE REACHING THE MAZE OF WATERFALLS SOON. I CAN HEAR IT OUT THERE. WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL BECAUSE IT'S A LOT OF WET, SLIPPERY ROCKS AND NO PLACE TO HIDE
THERE'S ALSO A CLIFF AROUND THE MAZE AND IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL, YOU COULD FALL IN WITHOUT ANY WARN
SH-CHING


THIS PLACE GIVES ME THE CREEPS
ME TOO, BUT A STRAIGHT LINE THROUGH THE SWAMP OF SILENCE IS OUR BEST CHANCE OF CATCHING UP WITH FUMBLES
WE'RE KIDDING OURSELVES. HE'S GOT AN ENTIRE NIGHT'S HEAD START ON US.
IF THAT GOBLIN SLAYER HURTS HIM, I'LL...
YOU'LL DO NOTHING!
DIDN'T YOU LISTEN TO ME LAST NIGHT? NO GOBLIN CAN STAND UP TO HIM AND LIVE. HE'S A
A...
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
CAREFUL THERE, CHIEF. THERE'RE FREAKIN PLANTS GROWING OUT OF THEIR HEADS
LOOKS LIKE THESE WEIRD PLANTS ARE HAVING A HARD TIME GROWING IN AN ENVIRONMENT THIS WET
THESE ORCS WERE ALL MEMBERS OF THE THORNBACK CLAN. OUR CLAN IS AT PEACE WITH THEM, BUT I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM THEM IN MONTHS
WELL, YOU'RE HEARING FROM THEM NOW
WHAT?

GOOD MOON TO YOU, THORNBACK CLAN. I AM CHIEF, LEADER OF THE CLAN OF .
HISSSSSSS!
I HAVE NEVER HEARD AN ORC HISS BEFORE
ME NEITHER
I THINK WE SHOULD TURN AROUND AND FIND ANOTHER ROUTE TO BRASSMOON CITY
I AGREE
HISSSSSSS
HISSS!
HISSSSSSS!
OH SONOVA CRAP
WE DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE, GUYS!
WE'RE JUST LOOKING FOR OUR CLANMATE. HE'S .
AAAAH!
COMPLAINS!
AAH!

YOU GET YOUR ORCISH HANDS OFF OF
GHAAAH!
MAGIC WEAPON!
FOOM
CRUMP
HISSSSSSS!
SPLASSSHHH
CRU-RUNCH
ALRIGHT THEN
LET'S GO

SHIINGG
SCRUNCH!
SHWUNGH
CLANG

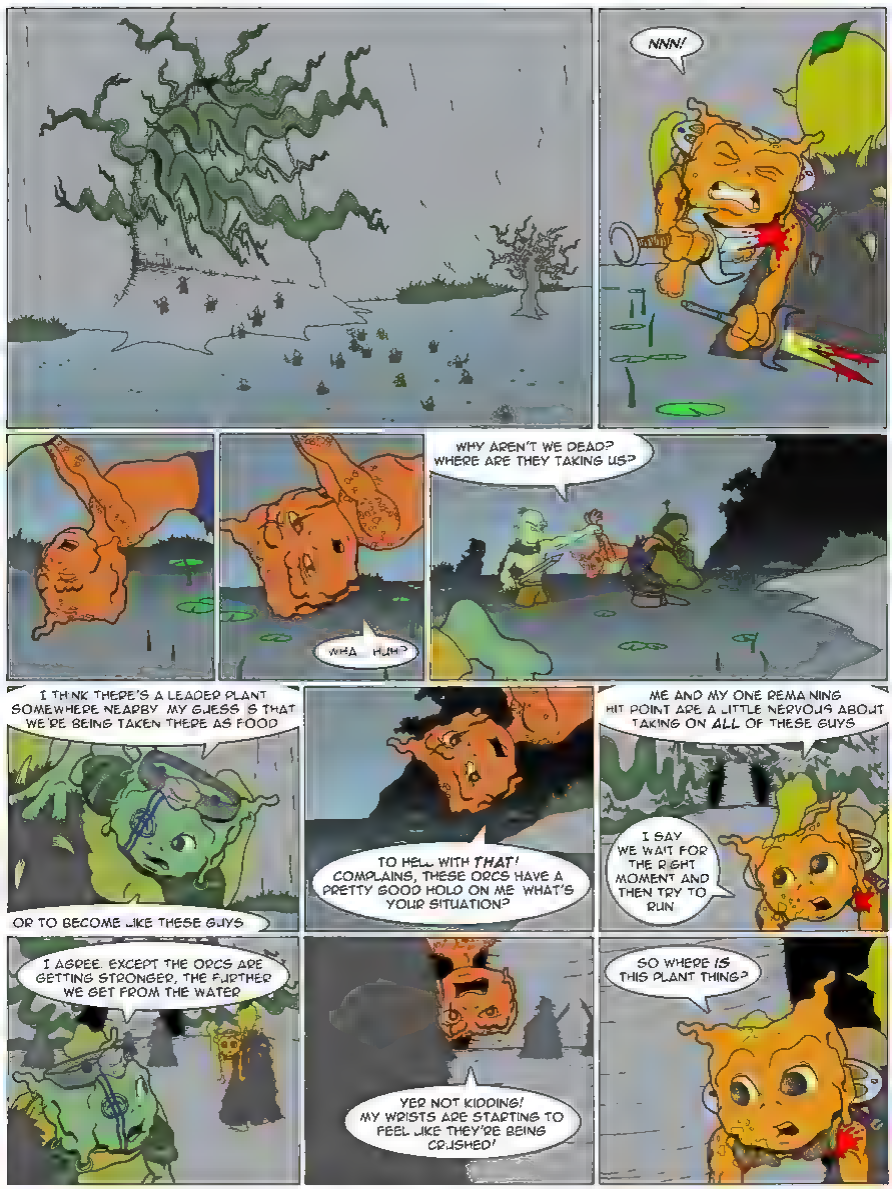

SLUNCH
SPLASH
GRUNCH
WHATEVER THIS PLANT DID TO THE THORNBACKS, IT'S MADE THEM A LOT WEAKER! THEY HAVE MAYBE 1 OR 2 HIT POINTS EACH AND THEY DON'T SEEM TO BE DOING MUCH DAMAGE! IF THERE WEREN'T SO MANY OF THEM, I THINK WE'D BE OKAY!
I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S THE WATER! THE PLANT GROWING OUT OF THEM IS NOT A SWAMP PLANT AND ALL OF THIS MOISTURE IS KEEPING THEM WEAKER THAN THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE!
RUNCH
THAT WOULD MEAN THERE'S PROBABLY A MUCH STRONGER VERSION ON SOME NEARBY DRY LAND. MAYBE LIKE A MOTHER PLANT THAT'S IN CHARGE OF ALL THE OTHER...
LOOK OUT!
SPLASH
BLORBLBL...!
CA-CLICK
SHWUNK
SHWONK
WHERE DID THEY TAKE COMPLAINS? WE NEED HIS RAGE ABILITY!

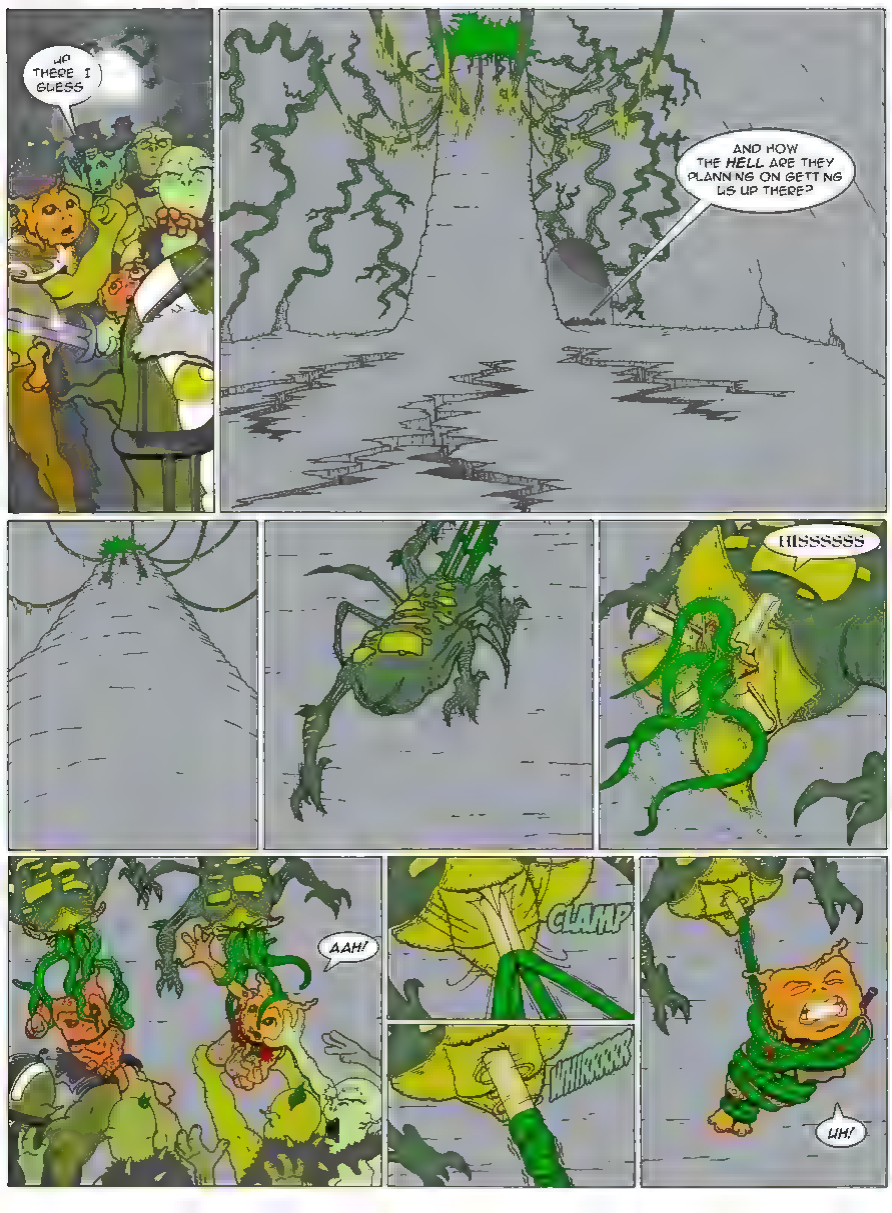
HISSSSSSS!
GRAAAA!
GRAAAAAAA!
SHWUNK
HISSSSSS

SSSSSSSSSSAAAKK!
CRACKKK!
THWUNK
THWACK
MMMM!

THUNT MAY06

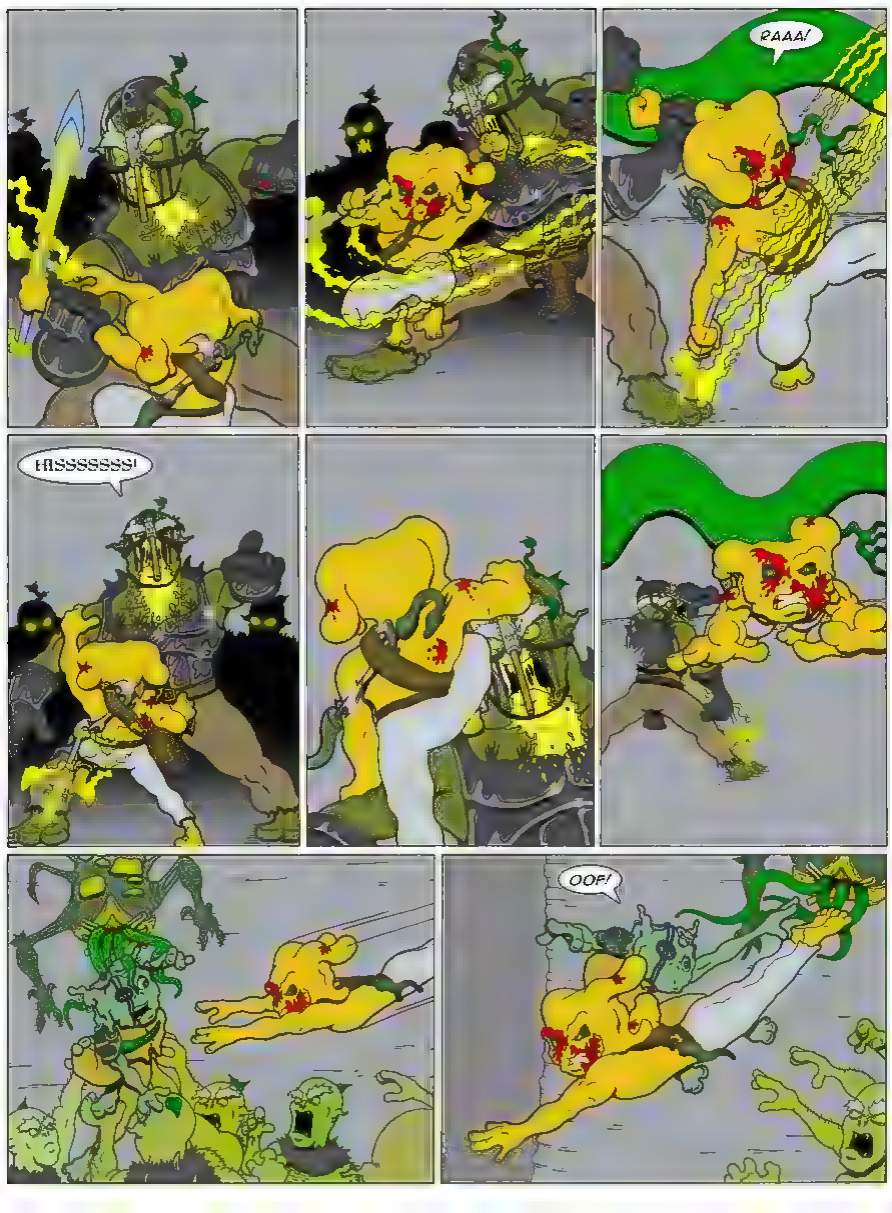
HUFF
HUFF
HEH
HUFF
HEH
HEH
OH
SO THAT'S A BARBARIAN RAGE THEN
OUCH
SPISH!
HISSSSSSSS
SPLISH
SPLOSH
CROUCH
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
THE ORCS ARE GONE IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE RETREATED
GUYS?


NNN!
WHA HUH?
WHY AREN'T WE DEAD? WHERE ARE THEY TAKING US?
I THINK THERE'S A LEADER PLANT SOMEWHERE NEARBY MY GUESS S THAT WE'RE BEING TAKEN THERE AS FOOD
OR TO BECOME LIKE THESE GUYS
TO HELL WITH THAT! COMPLAINS, THESE ORCS HAVE A PRETTY GOOD HOLD ON ME WHAT'S YOUR SITUATION?
ME AND MY ONE REMAINING HIT POINT ARE A LITTLE NERVOUS ABOUT TAKING ON ALL OF THESE GUYS
I SAY WE WAIT FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT AND THEN TRY TO RUN
I AGREE. EXCEPT THE ORCS ARE GETTING STRONGER, THE FURTHER WE GET FROM THE WATER
YER NOT KIDDING! MY WRISTS ARE STARTING TO FEEL LIKE THEY'RE BEING CRUSHED!
SO WHERE IS THIS PLANT THING?

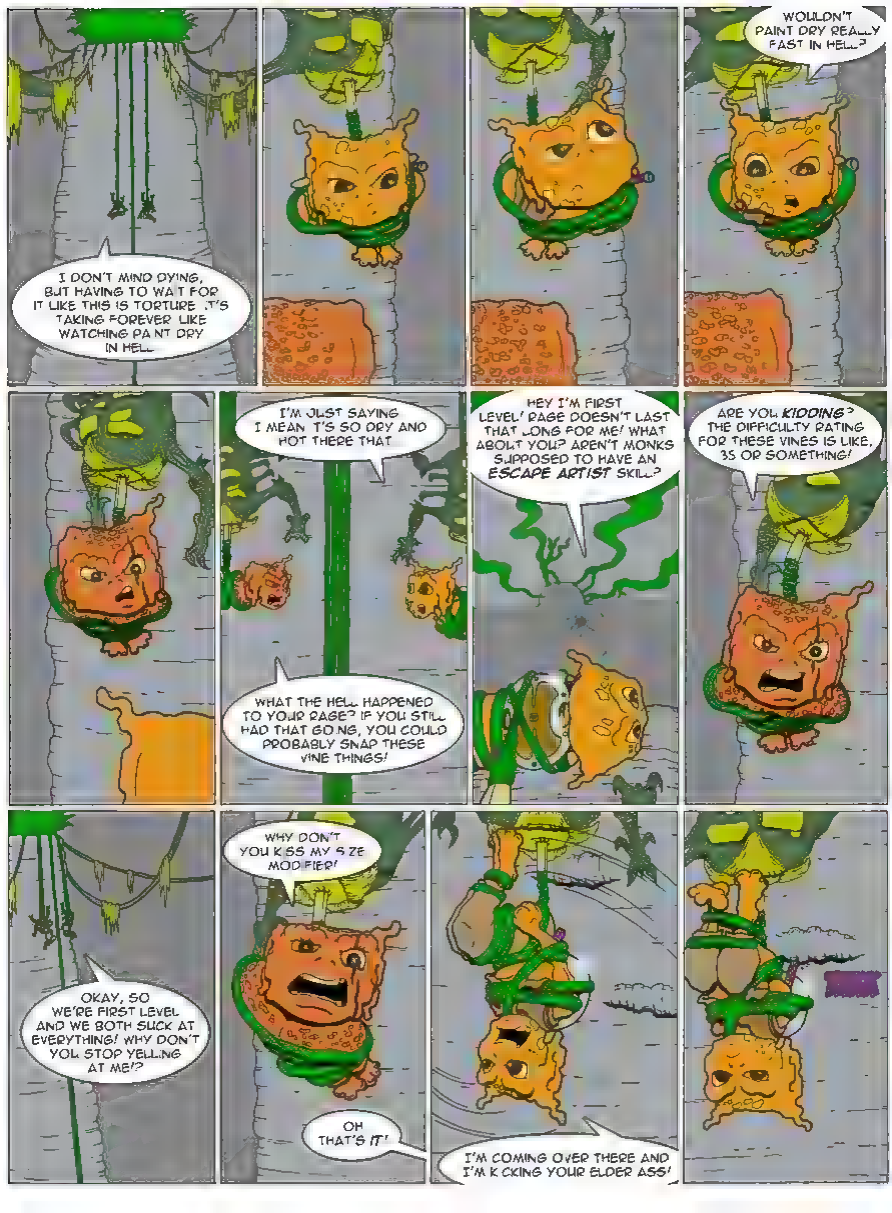

UP THERE I GUESS
AND HOW THE HELL ARE THEY PLANNING ON GETTING US UP THERE?
HISSSSSS
AAH!
CLAMP
WHIRRRRR
UH!

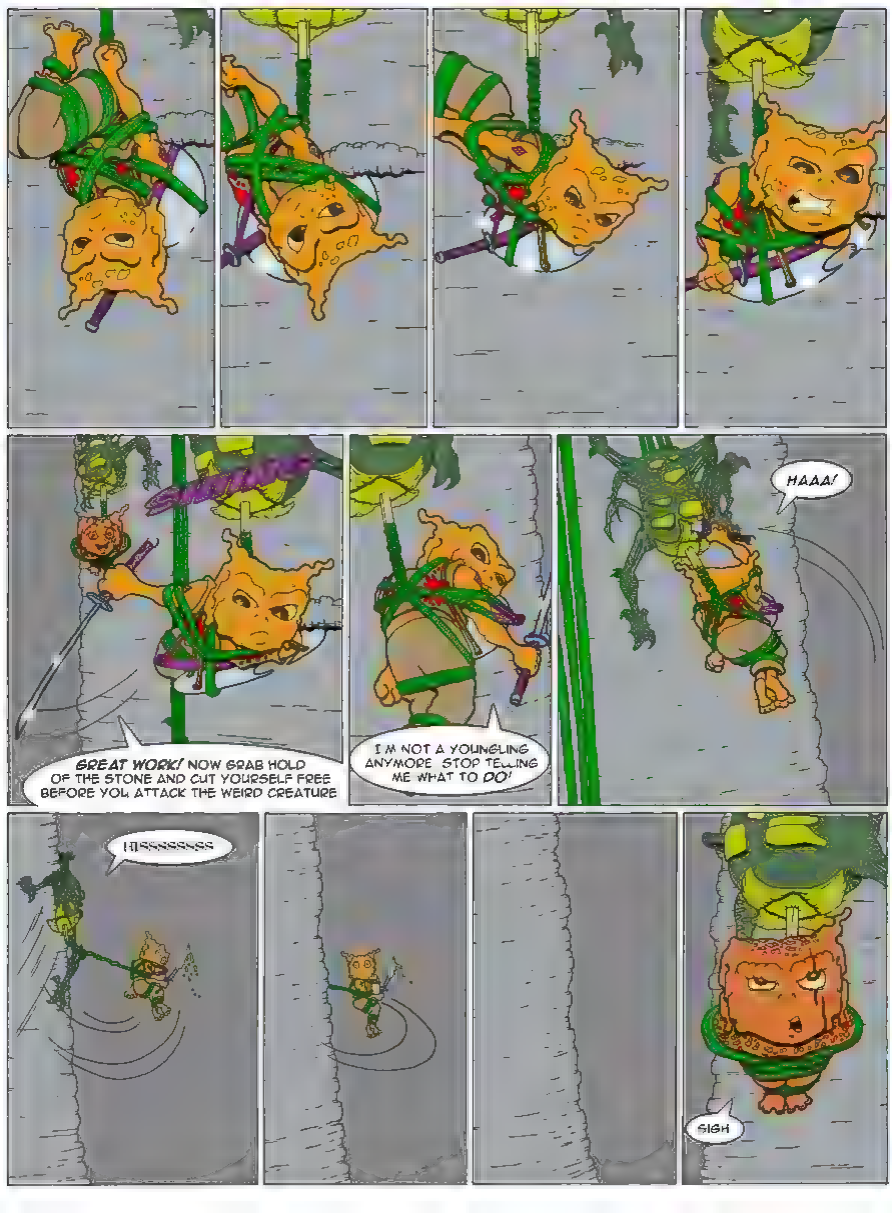
NO! NOOO!
IT JUST OCCURRED TO ME THAT I'M NOT COMFORTABLE ATTACKING SOMEONE FROM BEHIND
HISSSSSSS
THANK YOU
SCHUNK
EARS! THEY'RE MUCH MORE POWERFUL OVER HERE!
HISSSSSSSSS!
CA-CLICK

CLUNK
CRUNCH
UH!
AAH!
NO! PLEASE!

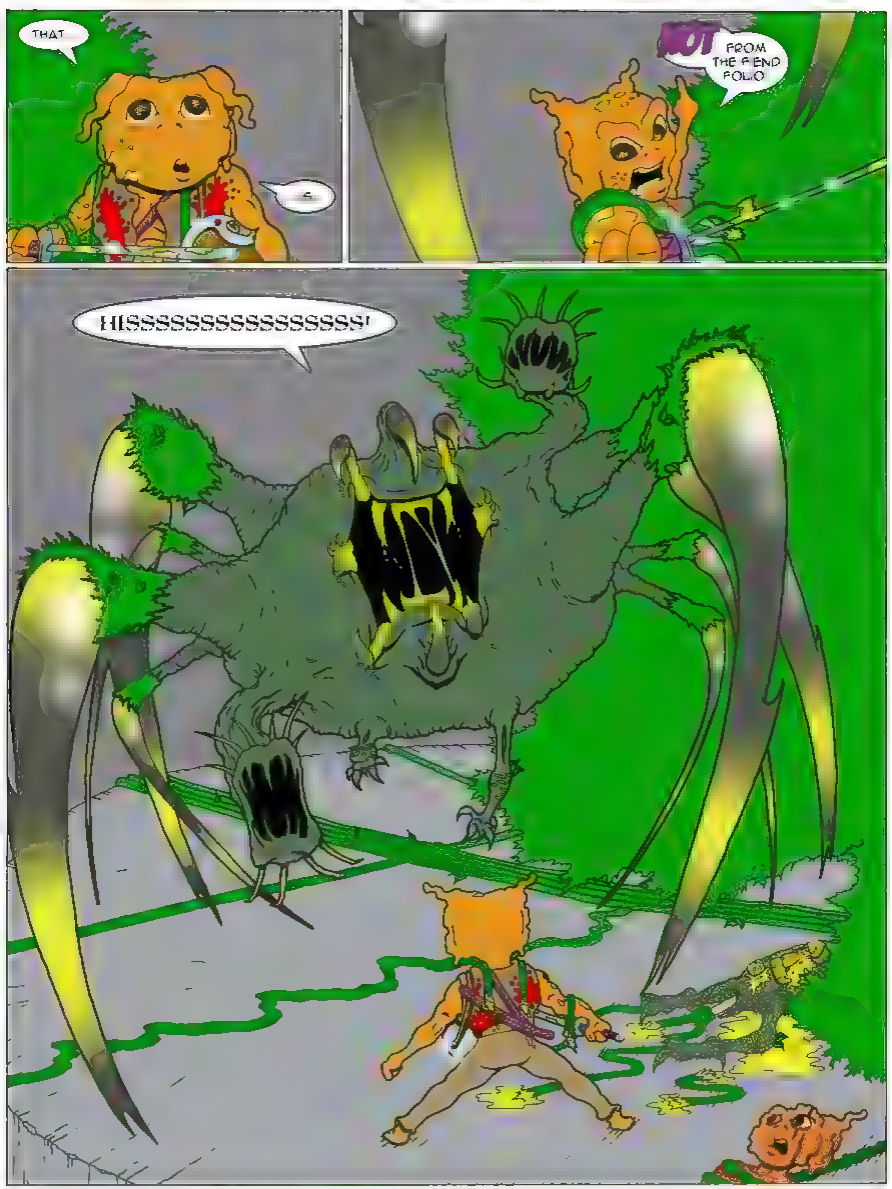

RAAA!
HISSSSSSS!
OOF!

AH!
THUMP
YOU'RE THE CHIEF! YOUR SURVIVAL IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANY OF US! I'LL KEEP THEM BUSY WHILE YOU RUN!
NO WAY! YOU'LL DIE FOR SURE!
THERE HAS TO BE ANOTHER TUNNEL THAT LEADS OUT OF HERE, GO FIND IT!
WAIT! EARS LISTEN, I M NOT THE
RUN!
NOW!
SHIINGG

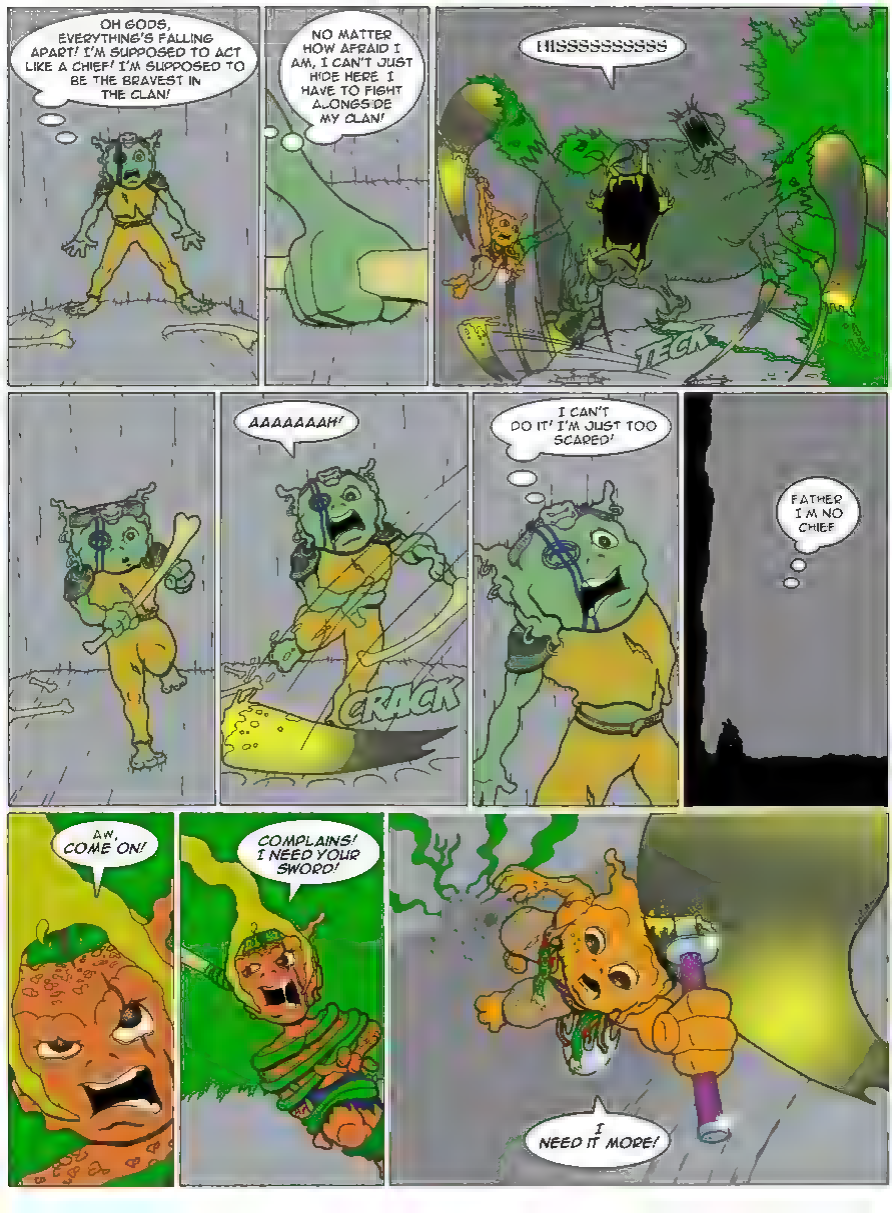

I DON'T MIND DYING, BUT HAVING TO WAIT FOR IT LIKE THIS IS TORTURE. IT'S TAKING FOREVER LIKE WATCHING PAINT DRY IN HELL.
WOULDN'T PAINT DRY REALLY FAST IN HELL?
I'M JUST SAYING I MEAN IT'S SO DRY AND HOT THERE THAT.
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED TO YOUR RAGE? IF YOU STILL HAD THAT GOING, YOU COULD PROBABLY SNAP THESE VINE THINGS!
HEY I'M FIRST LEVEL! RAGE DOESN'T LAST THAT LONG FOR ME! WHAT ABOUT YOU? AREN'T MONKS SUPPOSED TO HAVE AN ESCAPE ARTIST SKILL?
ARE YOU KIDDING? THE DIFFICULTY RATING FOR THESE VINES IS LIKE, 35 OR SOMETHING!
OKAY, SO WE'RE FIRST LEVEL AND WE BOTH SUCK AT EVERYTHING! WHY DON'T YOU STOP YELLING AT ME!?
WHY DON'T YOU KISS MY SIZE MODIFIER!
OH THAT'S IT!
I'M COMING OVER THERE AND I'M KICKING YOUR ELDER ASS!


GREAT WORK! NOW GRAB HOLD OF THE STONE AND CUT YOURSELF FREE BEFORE YOU ATTACK THE WEIRD CREATURE
I'M NOT A YOUNGLING ANYMORE STOP TELLING ME WHAT TO DO!
HAAA!
HSSSSSSS
SIGH

GRRRR!
OH NO. COMPLAINS, I THINK I RECOGNIZE THIS PLANT. IT'S A YELLOW MUSK CREEPER. I'M PRETTY SURE IT'S IN THE FIEND FOLIO
RAA!
HAA!
SFONK
SLINCH
RUSTLE
YES!
WUMP
SLUUURP


THAT
-
NOT
FROM THE FIEND FOLIO
HISSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS!

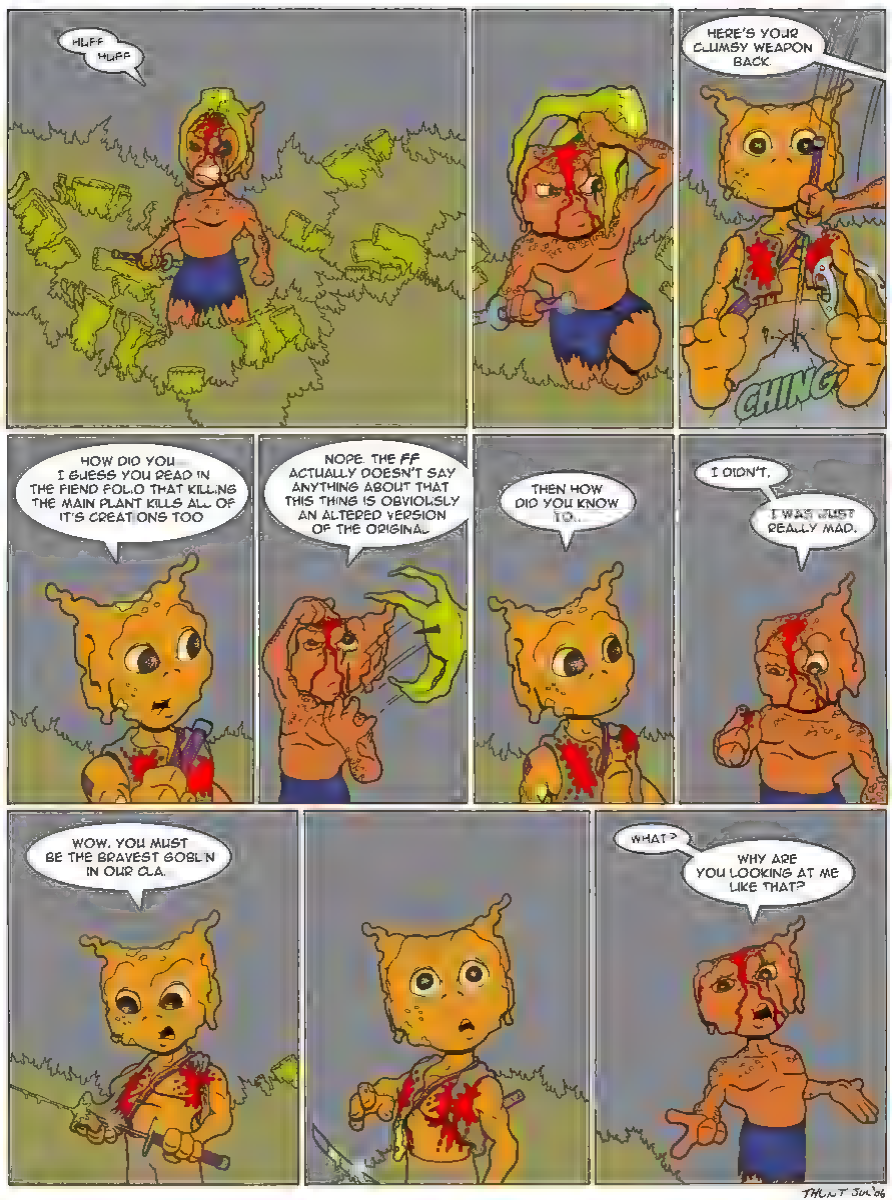
HISSSSSSSSSSSS
BUT I HAVE ONE HIT POINT
CRUCH
OOF!
CRACK
CA-CRACK
CLUMP
UH!
HISSSSSSSSS!
GRRRR

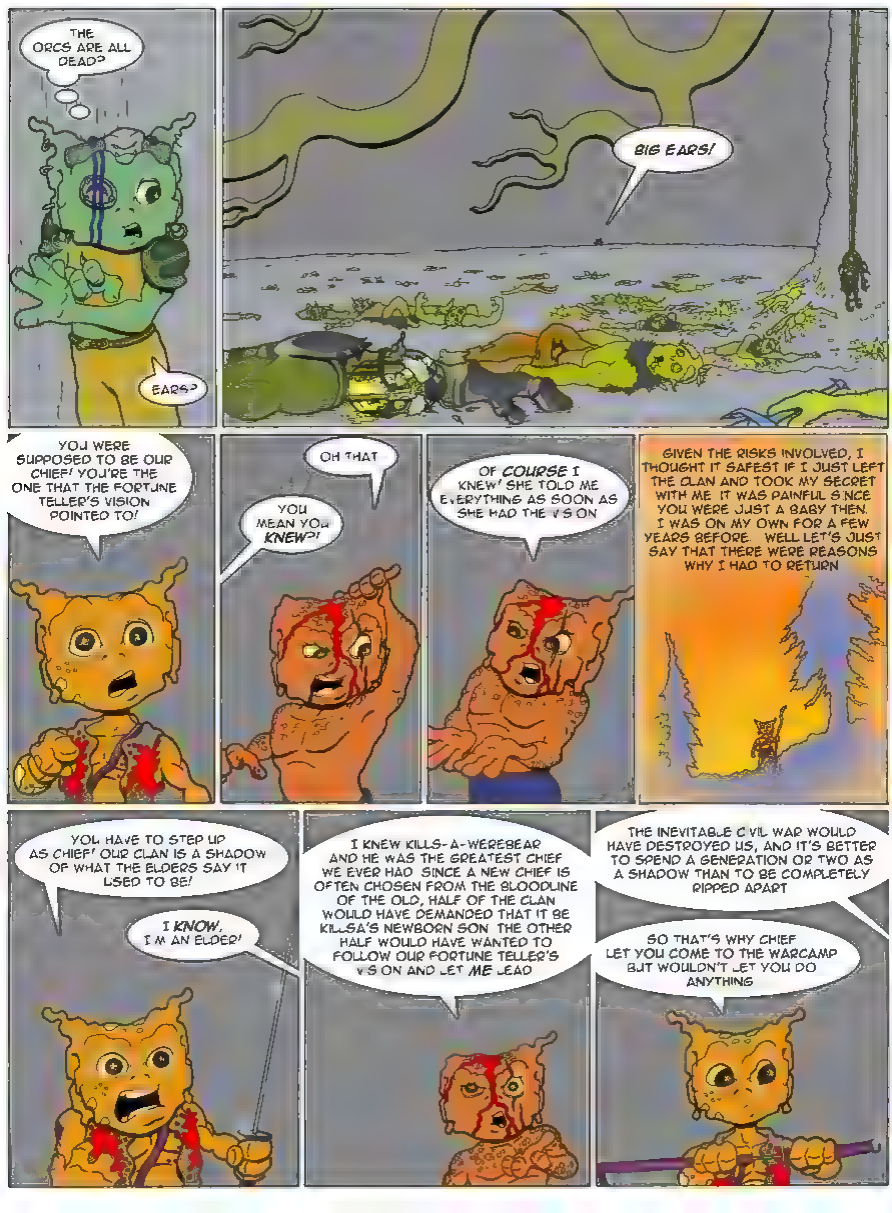

OH GODS, EVERYTHING'S FALLING APART! I'M SUPPOSED TO ACT LIKE A CHIEF! I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE BRAVEST IN THE CLAN!
NO MATTER HOW AFRAID I AM, I CAN'T JUST HIDE HERE I HAVE TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE MY CLAN!
HISSSSSSSSSS
TEAR
AAAAAAAH!
CRACK
I CAN'T DO IT! I'M JUST TOO SCARED!
FATHER I'M NO CHIEF
AW, COME ON!
COMOLAINS! I NEED YOUR SWORD!
I NEED IT MORE!

COMPLAINS! SWORD! NOW!
HISSSSSSSSS!
RRRRRR!
SNAP
RAAAAA!
GULP

SHLUNK
HISSSSSSS!
THA-WHUMP
HERE!
SKWUMP
HEY! WHAT THE HELL!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

C'MON WE CAN CLIMB DOWN THESE
OH MAN
HISSSSS
WE ARE SO SCREWED
CHOP
CHOP
HISSSSSSSS!
CHOP
CHOP
RUSTLE
CHOP
HISSSssss
THUD
CRUNCH
THUNK
THUD


HUFF HUFF
HERE'S YOUR CLUMSY WEAPON BACK.
CHING
HOW DID YOU... I GUESS YOU READ IN THE FIEND FOLIO THAT KILLING THE MAIN PLANT KILLS ALL OF IT'S CREATIONS TOO
NOPE. THE FF ACTUALLY DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THAT THIS THING IS OBVIOUSLY AN ALTERED VERSION OF THE ORIGINAL
THEN HOW DID YOU KNOW TO..
I DIDN'T.
I WAS JUST REALLY MAD.
WOW. YOU MUST BE THE BRAVEST GOBLIN IN OUR CLA.
WHAT?
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
THUNT JUL'06


THE ORCS ARE ALL DEAD?
EARS?
BIG EARS!
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE OUR CHIEF! YOU'RE THE ONE THAT THE FORTUNE TELLER'S VISION POINTED TO!
OH THAT
YOU MEAN YOU KNEW?!
OF COURSE I KNEW! SHE TOLD ME EVERYTHING AS SOON AS SHE HAD THE VISION
GIVEN THE RISKS INVOLVED, I THOUGHT IT SAFEST IF I JUST LEFT THE CLAN AND TOOK MY SECRET WITH ME. IT WAS PAINFUL SINCE YOU WERE JUST A BABY THEN. I WAS ON MY OWN FOR A FEW YEARS BEFORE. WELL LET'S JUST SAY THAT THERE WERE REASONS WHY I HAD TO RETURN
YOU HAVE TO STEP UP AS CHIEF! OUR CLAN IS A SHADOW OF WHAT THE ELDERS SAY IT USED TO BE!
I KNOW, I AM AN ELDER!
I KNEW KILLS-A-WEREBEAR AND HE WAS THE GREATEST CHIEF WE EVER HAD. SINCE A NEW CHIEF IS OFTEN CHOSEN FROM THE BLOODLINE OF THE OLD, HALF OF THE CLAN WOULD HAVE DEMANDED THAT IT BE KILLSA'S NEWBORN SON. THE OTHER HALF WOULD HAVE WANTED TO FOLLOW OUR FORTUNE TELLER'S VISION AND LET ME LEAD
THE INEVITABLE CIVIL WAR WOULD HAVE DESTROYED US, AND IT'S BETTER TO SPEND A GENERATION OR TWO AS A SHADOW THAN TO BE COMPLETELY RIPPED APART
SO THAT'S WHY CHIEF LET YOU COME TO THE WARCAMP BUT WOULDN'T LET YOU DO ANYTHING

YUP. HE WANTED TO KEEP ME CLOSE. TAPS AND ASKS NONSENSE CAME ALONG CAUSE THEY WERE JUST STUBBORN. I HOPE THEY'RE MAKING IT BACK TO THE VILLAGE OKAY
AND I'M SURE CHIEF AND EARS ARE OKAY I DON'T THINK THE ORCS WERE MEANT TO KILL US. NOT UNLESS IT WAS DECIDED THAT IT WAS TOO TOUGH TO GET US UP HERE
CHIEF IS JUST SUCH A SCREW UP HE'S THE REASON WHY EVERYTHING IS
COMPLAINS
HOW ARE YOUR STONE CARVING ABILITIES THESE DAYS?
WHAT? WELL. TERRIBLE YOU KNOW I SUCK AT STONE CARVING WHY?
WELL IMAGINE THAT AS A BABY, IT WAS DECLARED THAT YOU WOULD BE THE CLAN'S ONLY STONE CARVER AND WE WOULD ALL DEPEND ON YOUR CARVING TALENTS
IN FACT, WE WERE SO DEPENDANT ON YOU FOR THIS, WE ACTUALLY NAMED YOU STONECARVER AND YOUR ENTIRE LIFE, YOU WERE JUDGED SOLELY ON HOW WELL YOU DID THIS ONE JOB
YEAH, THAT WOULD SUCK ALRIGHT I SUPPOSE I'D QUIT
BUT CHIEF WON'T QUIT IF THIS UNFORTUNATE THING HAD NEVER HAPPENED TO HIM, HE'D PROBABLY BE FARMING OR MENDING CLOTHING OR SOMETHING BACK AT THE VILLAGE. HE'D BE LIVING WHAT HE CONSIDERS TO BE A HAPPY LIFE
HE KNOWS THAT HE'LL BE MARKED IN HISTORY AS A POOR CHIEF BUT HE STAYS AT IT, KEEPS HIS SECRET AND SACRIFICES HIS OWN HAPPINESS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLAN. HE'S NO WARRIOR AND HE'S NO LEADER. BUT HE'S A GOOD, STRONG GOBLIN.
EARS
WHERE ARE YOU?
NNNNN!
-8
OH GODS!

MAGILBIYET
CURE LIGHT WOUNDS!
THANKS. WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?
-3
I THINK THEY'RE OKAY. I'M PRETTY SURE THEY'RE THE REASON FOR THE DEAD ORCS
-2
I FEEL DIFFERENT KIND OF LIKE I'M
-1
SECOND LEVEL!
I'VE GOT MORE HIT POINTS!
ME TOO! AND AS WEIRD AS THIS SOUNDS, IT FEELS LIKE A GLOW INSIDE ME
LISTEN EARS, BEFORE WE GET ALL HAPPY OVER OUR LEVELS, I'VE GOT TO APOLOGIZE FOR RUNNING
HEY YOU TWO! YOU GOTTA CLIMB UP HERE! WE FOUND TREASURE! SOME OF THIS STUFF HAS TO BE MAGICAL!
FOR RUNNING AWAY WHEN
PLUS, WE HIT SECOND LEVEL!
FOR RUNNING
AS WEIRD AS THIS SOUNDS, IT FEELS LIKE A GLOW INSIDE...
SHUT UP!

THUNT Jul '06

WELL AT LEAST I'M NOT ALWAYS DRAGGING MY BOW THROUGH THE WATER! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT THAT DOES TO THE WOOD?
OH SHUT UP MR. "NINJA" WHO, BY THE WAY, IS WEARING HIS KATANA UPSIDE DOWN! WHY DON'T YOU TRY DOING SOME RESEARCH THE NEXT TIME YOU MAKE A CHARACTER!
OH, YOU WANNA TALK ABOUT ROLEPLAYING FLAWS? I SEE YOU'RE PLAYING YET ANOTHER SHORT CHARACTER! AND YOUR BOW IS TALLER THAN YOU ARE! YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN BE ABLE TO DRAW THAT THING!
WILL YOU TWO CUT IT OUT? WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE HUNTING GOBLINS, AND STANDING HERE ARGUING IS NOT GOING TO MAKE THEM JUST FALL OUT OF THE SKY!
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS LOOKING FOR?
WELL AFTER A COMMENT LIKE THAT, I HALF EXPECTED A GOBLIN TO FALL OUT OF THE SKY DUE TO UNRELATED CIRCUMSTANCES.
YEAH, ME TOO
THAT'S THE STUPIDEST THING I'VE EVER HEARD
OH NOT AT ALL. IRONIC COINCIDENSES HAPPEN ALL THE TIME TO ADVENTURERS.
YEAH, LIKE REMEMBER THE TIME SHE SAID "AT LEAST THINGS CAN'T GET ANY WORSE" AND THEN IT STARTED RAINING RIGHT AT THAT MOMENT?
OOOOO YEAH, THAT WAS CREEPY!
WAAAAAY!
SPLASH!

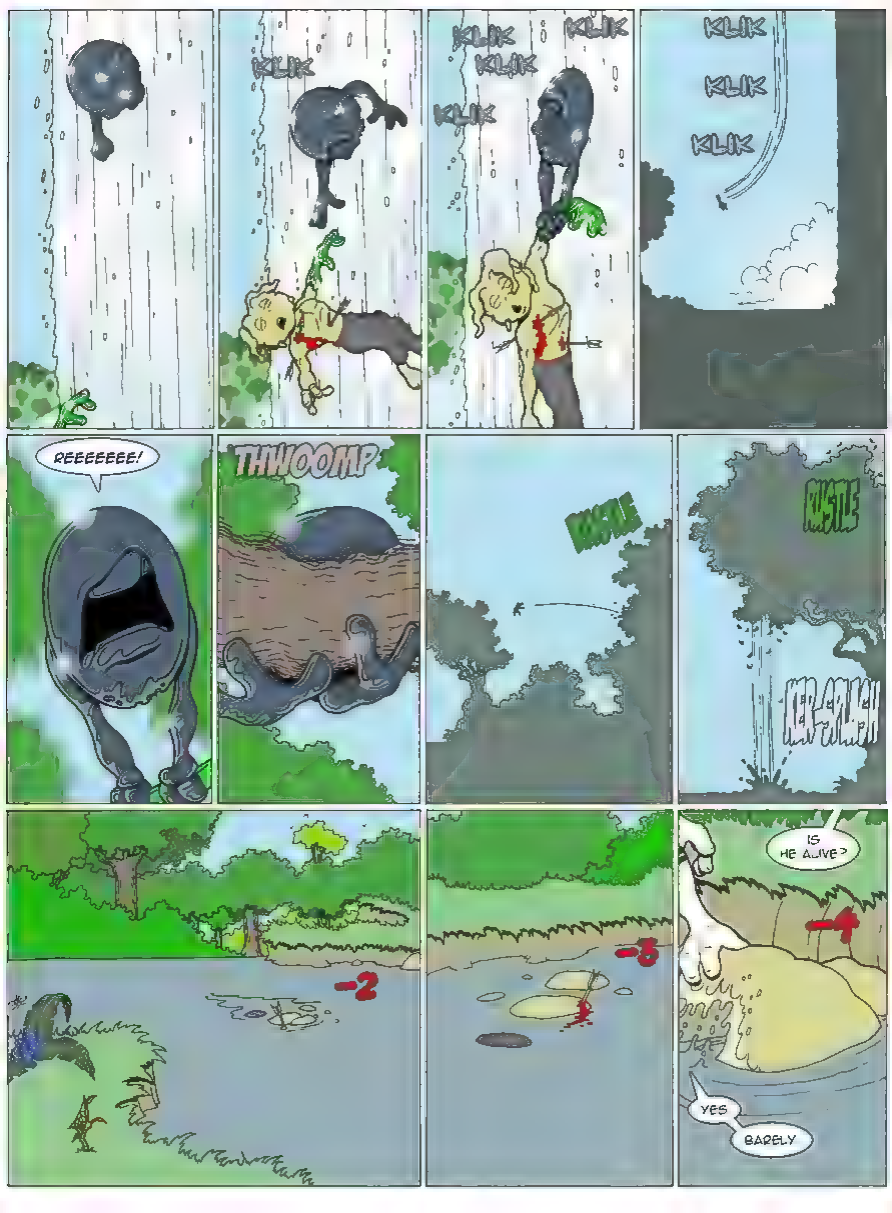
OH *PLEASE!* HE'S 45 FEET AWAY AND HE FELL LIKE, A MINUTE AND A HALF AFTER I MADE THE COMMENT THAT TOTALLY DOESN'T COUNT!
WHINE ALL YOU WANT, YOU KNOW WE'RE RIGHT
HEY, THAT GOBLIN HAS A WEIRD, GREEN GAUNTLET! I BETCHA IT'S MAGICAL!
CHECK OUT THIS SWEET SHOT
@!-TWANG
AAAH!
HUFF
AH!
GAAAH!
HE'S STILL ALIVE?
GEE, IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH YOUR BOW HAS BEEN DRAGGED THROUGH A RIVER AND IS NOW LESS EFFECTIVE
SHUT UP, MR CHARACTER MADE FIVE MINUTES BEFORE GAME!

KLIK
HUFF HUFF
CA-THUNG
AH!
CRACK
RUN KLIK, OR THEY'LL KILL YOU TOO!
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT THING?
REEEEEEE!
WAIT A MINUTE
REEEEEE!!
I REMEMBER THAT THING
THUNT JUL '06

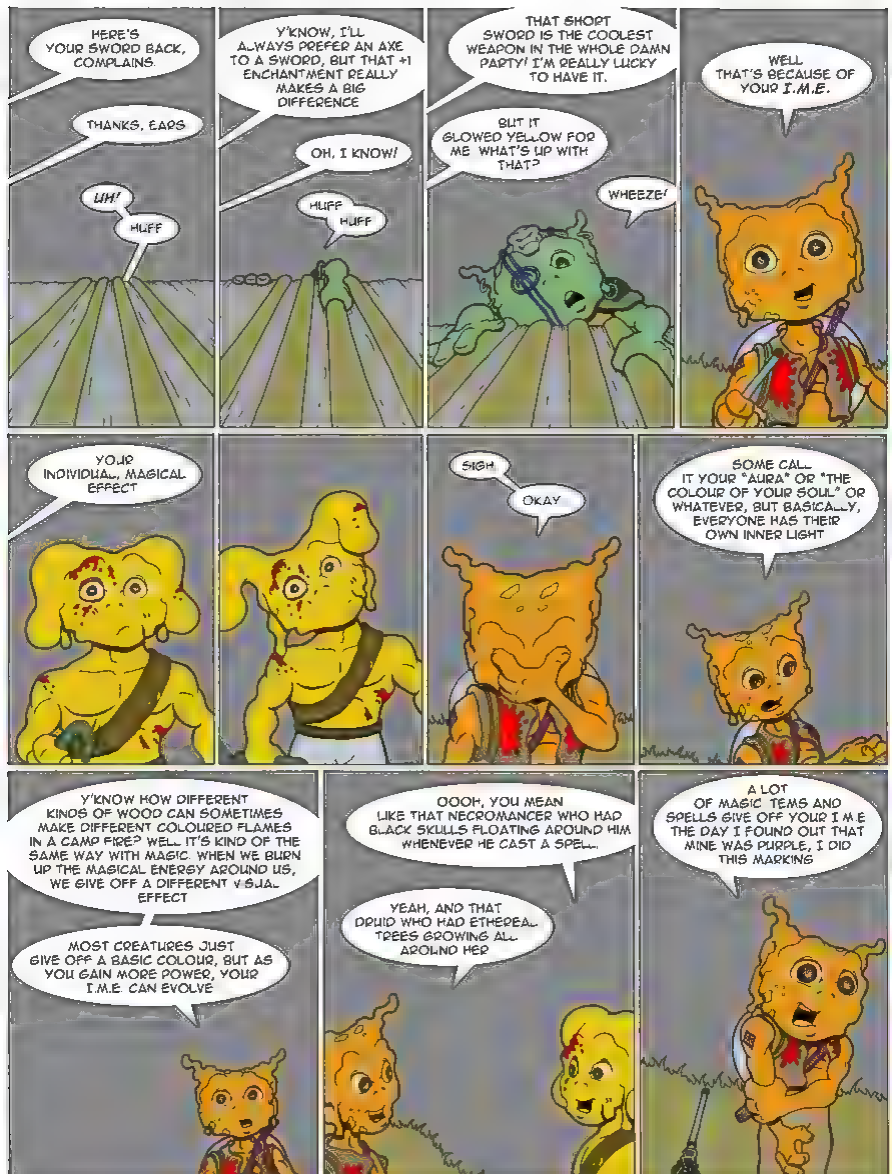
I THINK I LOST THEM
HUFF
HUFF
I CALL DIBS ON HIS GAUNTLET
QUIET OR HE'LL HEAR US!
AHHH!
WOW, HE'S FAST!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
HUFF

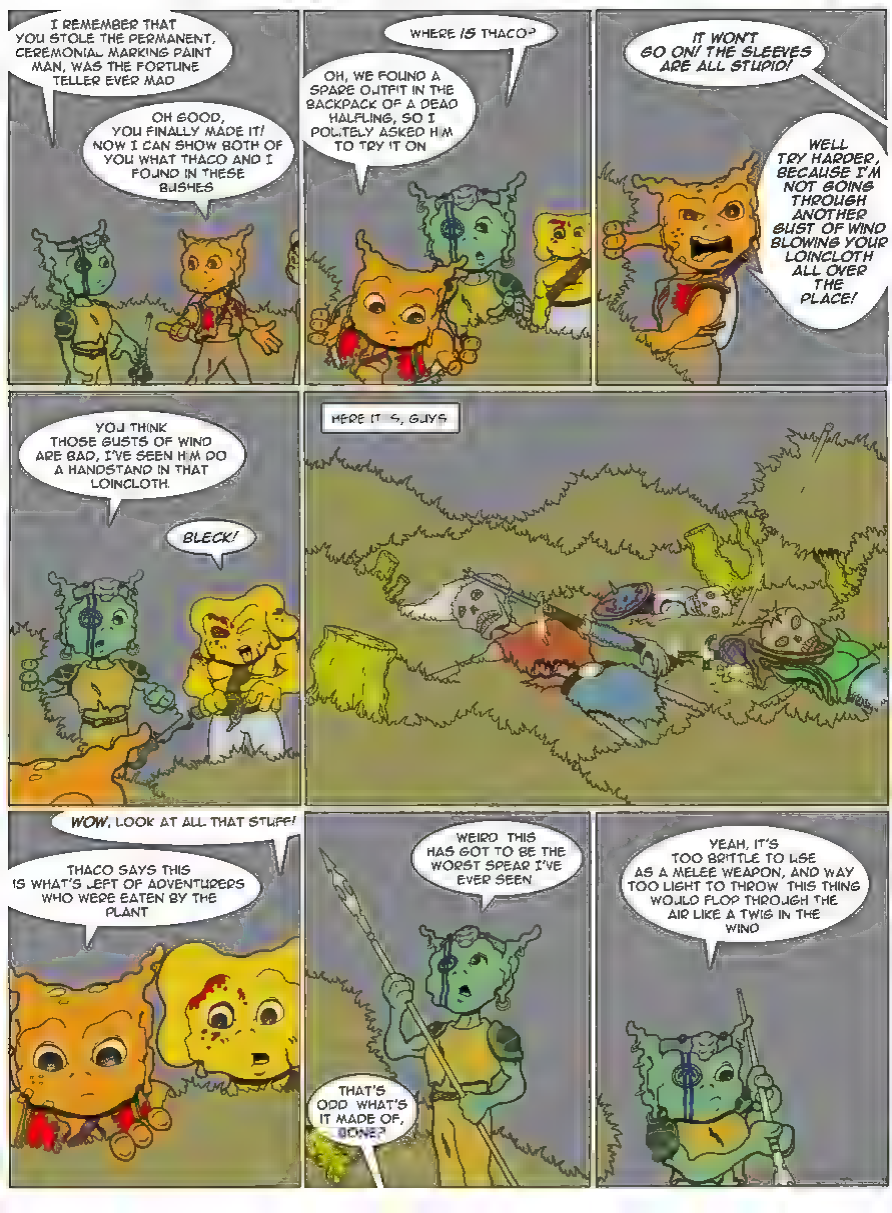
YODETTE, TRY TO GET AROUND HIM AND WE'LL FLANK HIM.
RIGHT
HUFF
OH PLEASE NO!
NO!
AH!
TWANG
WHAT'S YER FREAKIN PROBLEM!?
IF YOU SHOOT HIM NOW,
HE'LL FALL OVER THE EDGE AND I'LL LOSE MY MAGIC GAUNTLET!
IT'S NOT A GAUNTLET, YOU MORON!
OH NO!

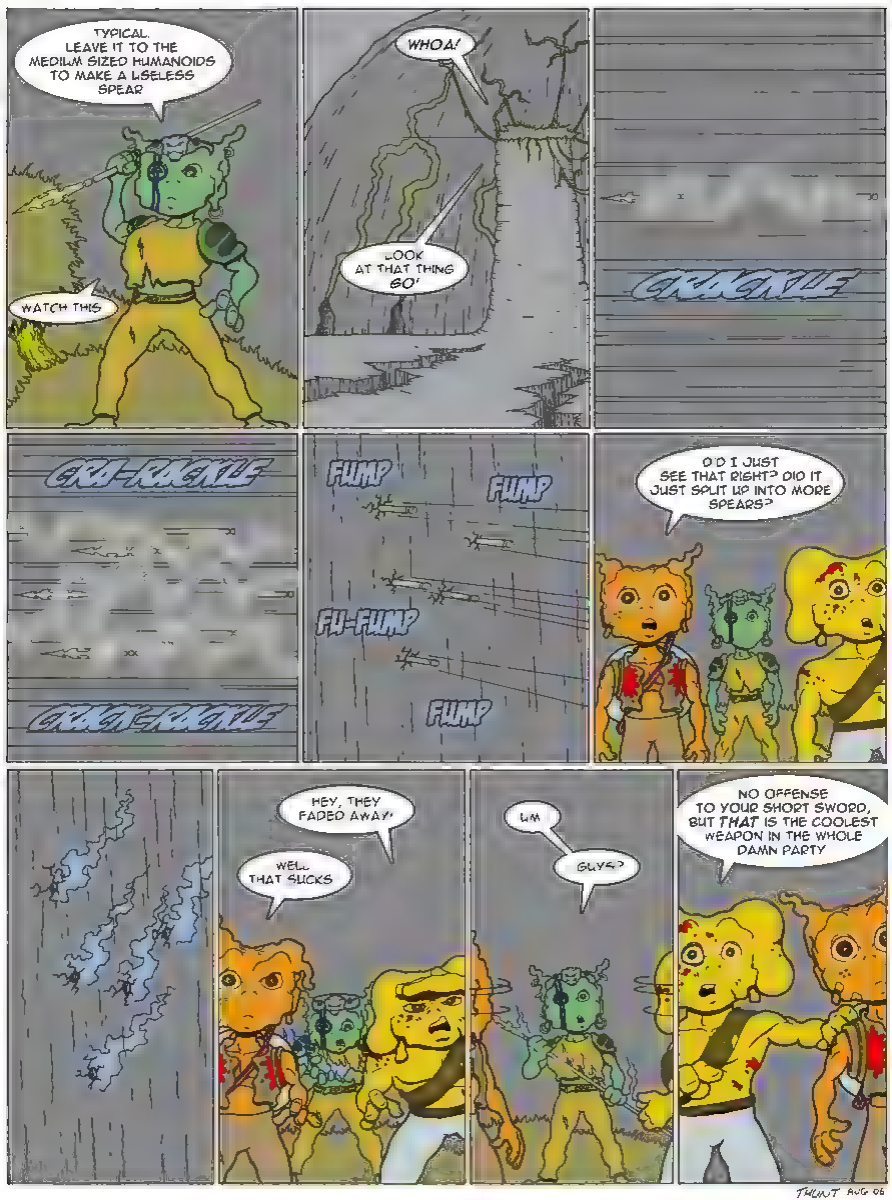
DON'T TELL ME WHO I CAN AND CAN'T SHOOT, YOU BIG OINK.
PLOP
SCREW THIS
WE GOT HIM NOW!
THUNK
AAAH!
GRAB HIM!
KLIK
YES!
CLUNK
KLIK
LOOK OUT!
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK


KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
KLIK
REEEEEEE!
THWOOMP
-2
-3
-4
IS HE ALIVE?
YES
BARELY

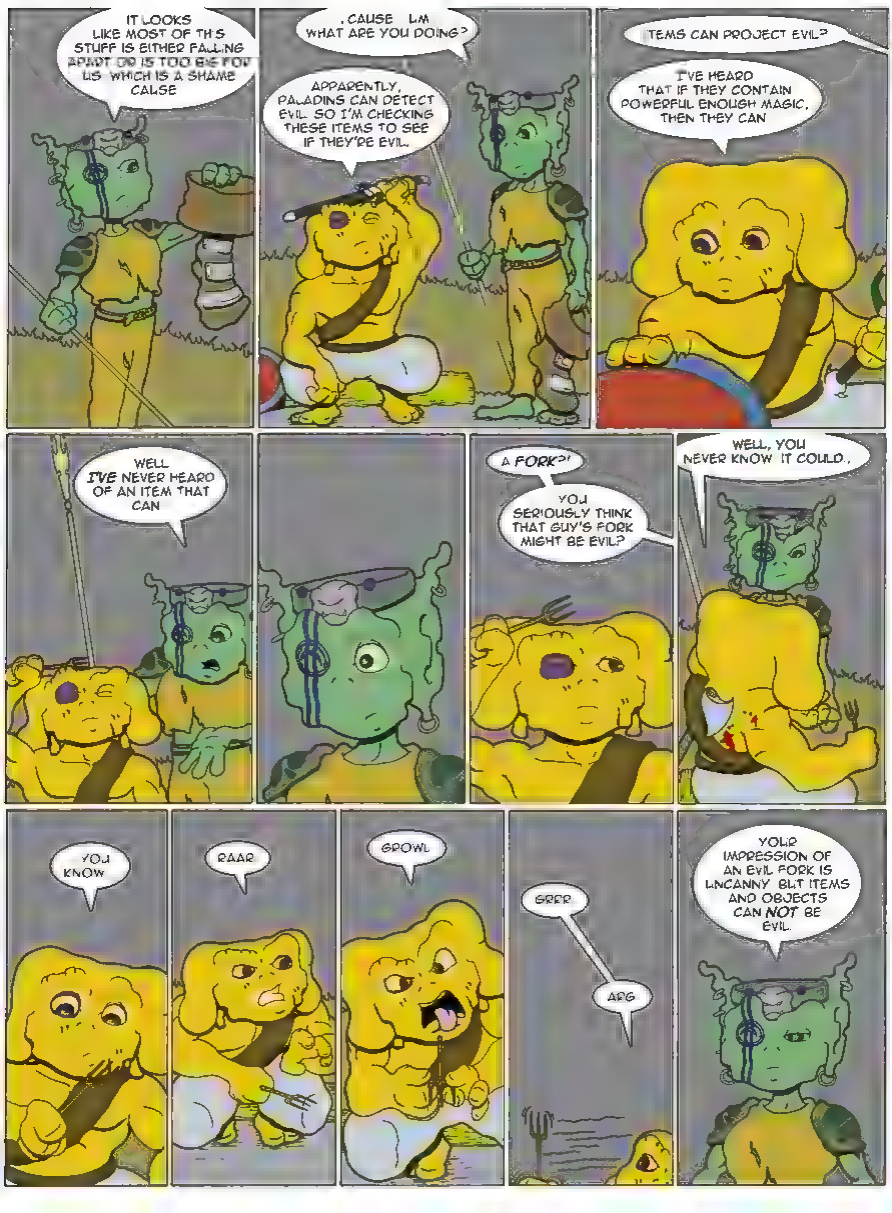
THEN BIND HIS WOUNDS. WE'LL TAKE HIM WITH US, BACK TO THE WARCAMP
YES GREM.
-5
TWINT JUL '08


HERE'S YOUR SWORD BACK, COMPLAINS.
THANKS, EARS.
UH!
HUFF
Y'KNOW, I'LL ALWAYS PREFER AN AXE TO A SWORD, BUT THAT +1 ENCHANTMENT REALLY MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE
OH, I KNOW!
HUFF HUFF
THAT SHORT SWORD IS THE COOLEST WEAPON IN THE WHOLE DAMN PARTY! I'M REALLY LUCKY TO HAVE IT.
BUT IT GLOWED YELLOW FOR ME. WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?
WHEEZE!
WELL, THAT'S BECAUSE OF YOUR I.M.E.
YOUR INDIVIDUAL, MAGICAL EFFECT
SIGH.
OKAY.
SOME CALL IT YOUR "AURA" OR "THE COLOUR OF YOUR SOUL" OR WHATEVER, BUT BASICALLY, EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN INNER LIGHT
Y'KNOW HOW DIFFERENT KINDS OF WOOD CAN SOMETIMES MAKE DIFFERENT COLOURED FLAMES IN A CAMP FIRE? WELL, IT'S KIND OF THE SAME WAY WITH MAGIC. WHEN WE BURN UP THE MAGICAL ENERGY AROUND US, WE GIVE OFF A DIFFERENT VISUAL EFFECT.
MOST CREATURES JUST GIVE OFF A BASIC COLOUR, BUT AS YOU GAIN MORE POWER, YOUR I.M.E. CAN EVOLVE
OOOH, YOU MEAN LIKE THAT NECROMANCER WHO HAD BLACK SKULLS FLOATING AROUND HIM WHENEVER HE CAST A SPELL.
YEAH, AND THAT DRUID WHO HAD ETHEREAL TREES GROWING ALL AROUND HER
A LOT OF MAGIC TEMS AND SPELLS GIVE OFF YOUR I M E THE DAY I FOUND OUT THAT MINE WAS PURPLE, I DID THIS MARKING


I REMEMBER THAT YOU STOLE THE PERMANENT, CEREMONIAL MARKING PAINT MAN, WAS THE FORTUNE TELLER EVER MAD
OH GOOD, YOU FINALLY MADE IT! NOW I CAN SHOW BOTH OF YOU WHAT THACO AND I FOUND IN THESE BUSHES
WHERE IS THACO?
OH, WE FOUND A SPARE OUTFIT IN THE BACKPACK OF A DEAD HALFLING, SO I POLITELY ASKED HIM TO TRY IT ON
IT WON'T GO ON! THE SLEEVES ARE ALL STUPID!
WELL TRY HARDER, BECAUSE I'M NOT GOING THROUGH ANOTHER BUST OF WIND BLOWING YOUR LOINCLOTH ALL OVER THE PLACE!
YOU THINK THOSE GUSTS OF WIND ARE BAD, I'VE SEEN HIM DO A HANDSTAND IN THAT LOINCLOTH.
BLECK!
HERE IT IS, GUYS
WOW, LOOK AT ALL THAT STUFF!
THACO SAYS THIS IS WHAT'S LEFT OF ADVENTURERS WHO WERE EATEN BY THE PLANT
WEIRD THIS HAS GOT TO BE THE WORST SPEAR I'VE EVER SEEN
THAT'S ODD WHAT'S IT MADE OF, BONE?
YEAH, IT'S TOO BRITTLE TO USE AS A MELEE WEAPON, AND WAY TOO LIGHT TO THROW THIS THING WOULD FLOP THROUGH THE AIR LIKE A TWIG IN THE WIND

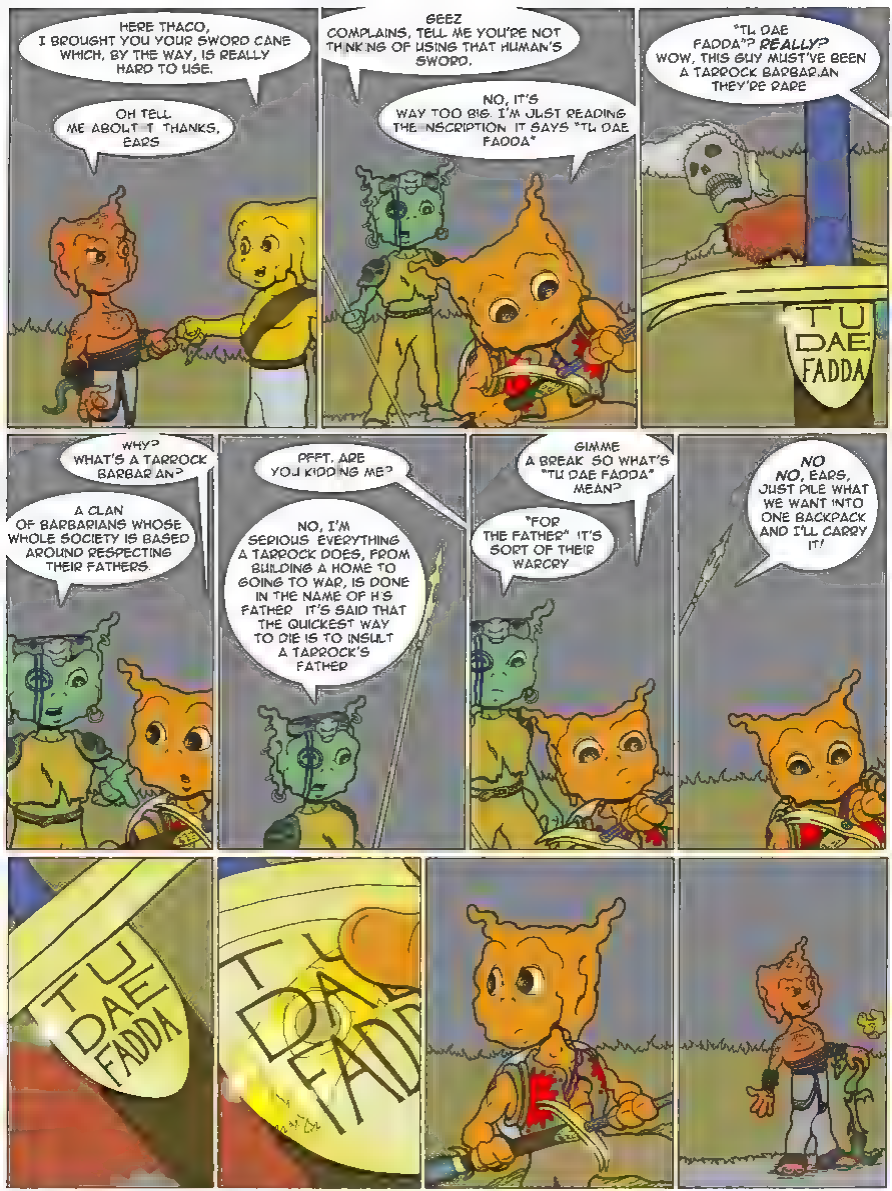

TYPICAL. LEAVE IT TO THE MEDIUM SIZED HUMANOIDS TO MAKE A USELESS SPEAR
WATCH THIS
WHOA!
LOOK AT THAT THING GO!
CRACKLE
CRU-RACKLE
CRUCK-RACKLE
FLUMP
FLUMP
FLU-FLUMP
FLUMP
D'D I JUST SEE THAT RIGHT? DID IT JUST SPLIT UP INTO MORE SPEARS?
HEY, THEY FADED AWAY!
WELL THAT SUCKS
UM
GUYS?
NO OFFENSE TO YOUR SHORT SWORD, BUT THAT IS THE COOLEST WEAPON IN THE WHOLE DAMN PARTY

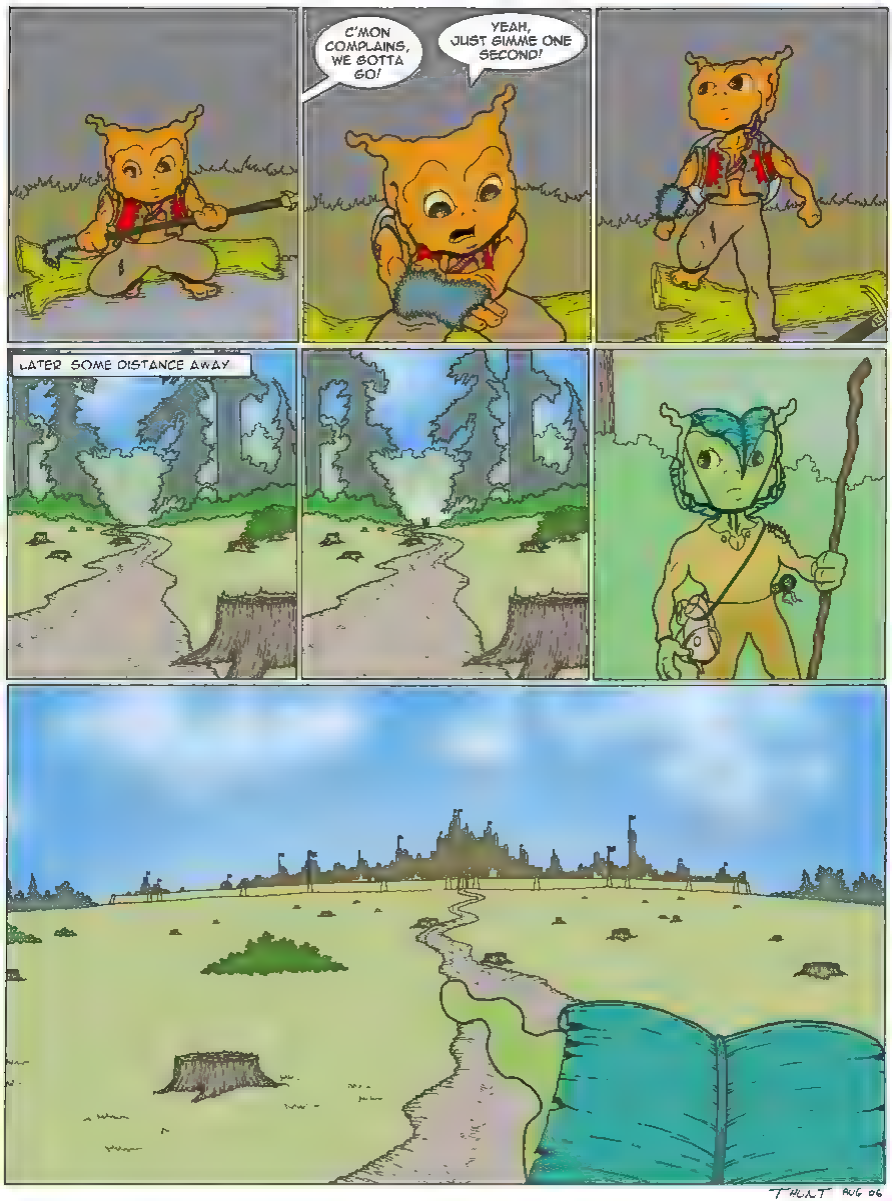
THUNT AUG 06


IT LOOKS LIKE MOST OF THIS STUFF IS EITHER FALLING APART OR IS TOO BIG FOR US WHICH IS A SHAME CAUSE
. CAUSE I AM WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
APPARENTLY, PALADINS CAN DETECT EVIL SO I'M CHECKING THESE ITEMS TO SEE IF THEY'RE EVIL.
ITEMS CAN PROJECT EVIL?
I'VE HEARD THAT IF THEY CONTAIN POWERFUL ENOUGH MAGIC, THEN THEY CAN
WELL I'VE NEVER HEARD OF AN ITEM THAT CAN
A FORK?!
YOU SERIOUSLY THINK THAT GUY'S FORK MIGHT BE EVIL?
WELL, YOU NEVER KNOW IT COULD.
YOU KNOW
RAAR
GROWL
GRRR
ARG
YOUR IMPRESSION OF AN EVIL FORK IS UNCANNY BUT ITEMS AND OBJECTS CAN NOT BE EVIL.

THIS OUTFIT WAS FORGED IN THE DEEPEST PLANE OF HELL BY THE FOULEST OF DEMONS!
THACO, YOU'RE OVERREACTING! AT LEAST COME OUT OF THE BUSHES SO I CAN SEE IT!
NO! I'VE SEEN HALFLINGS, AND NONE OF THEM EVER DRESSED LIKE THIS PANSY! THIS GUY MUST'VE BEEN FROM THE WUSSY SHIRE OF SAINT FRUITY
YOU'RE JUST NOT USED TO IT IS ALL. NOW LET ME SEE
FINE BUT I WARNED YOU.
OH MAN
WOW, THAT'S ROUGH
I GUESS NOW WE KNOW WHY THE HALFLING KEPT THAT THING IN HIS BACKPACK
ALRIGHT, GET ME OUTTA THIS THING!
KILLLLP
HEY, WAIT A SECOND!
WHAT?
Y'KNOW, THE OUTFIT LOOKS OKAY LIKE THAT
REALLY?
HEH
YEAH, I GUESS IT DOES LOOK BETTER ALL IT NEEDED WAS THE SAVAGE TOUCH OF A GOBLIN.

THUNT AUG '06

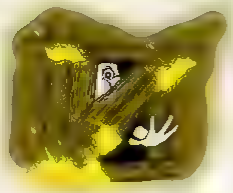

HERE THACO, I BROUGHT YOU YOUR SWORD CANE WHICH, BY THE WAY, IS REALLY HARD TO USE.
OH TELL ME ABOUT IT. THANKS, EARS
GEEZ COMPLAINS, TELL ME YOU'RE NOT THINKING OF USING THAT HUMAN'S SWORD.
NO, IT'S WAY TOO BIG. I'M JUST READING THE INSCRIPTION. IT SAYS "TU DAE FADDA"
"TU DAE FADDA"? *REALLY*? WOW, THIS GUY MUST'VE BEEN A TARROCK BARBARIAN. THEY'RE RARE
TU DAE FADDA
WHY? WHAT'S A TARROCK BARBARIAN?
A CLAN OF BARBARIANS WHOSE WHOLE SOCIETY IS BASED AROUND RESPECTING THEIR FATHERS.
PFFT. ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
NO, I'M SERIOUS. EVERYTHING A TARROCK DOES, FROM BUILDING A HOME TO GOING TO WAR, IS DONE IN THE NAME OF HIS FATHER. IT'S SAID THAT THE QUICKEST WAY TO DIE IS TO INSULT A TARROCK'S FATHER
GIMME A BREAK. SO WHAT'S "TU DAE FADDA" MEAN?
"FOR THE FATHER". IT'S SORT OF THEIR WARCRY
NO NO, EARS, JUST PILE WHAT WE WANT INTO ONE BACKPACK AND I'LL CARRY IT.
TU DAE FADDA
TU DAE FADDA


C'MON COMPLAINS, WE GOTTA GO!
YEAH, JUST GIMME ONE SECOND!
LATER SOME DISTANCE AWAY

TRUNT BUG 06

I AM THE WHITE TERROR.
MY NAME IS DUV, CHIEFTESS OF THE VIPER CLAN. ONCE EVERY FIVE HUNDRED YEARS, MAGLUBIYET, THE GOD OF ALL GOBLINS, CAUSES A MEMBER OF MY CLAN TO BE BORN WITH WINGS CAPABLE OF FLIGHT. THIS CHOSEN GOBLIN IS SMARTER, STRONGER, AND FASTER THAN OTHER GOBLINS. ITS LIFESPAN IS EXTENDED TO AROUND ONE HUNDRED, FIFTY YEARS, INSTEAD OF THE TYPICAL THIRTY YEARS THAT MOST GOBLINS LIVE. THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY THING ABOUT EACH WINGED GOBLIN THROUGHOUT MY CLAN'S HISTORY, IS THAT WE ARE LIVING SYMBOLS OF OUR GOD'S WILLINGNESS TO INTERACT WITH US AS A RACE. YOU SEE, I BRING HOPE TO MANY GOBLINS OF VARIOUS CLANS AND DESPAIR TO ALL OTHER RACES WHO WOULD STAND IN OUR WAY AS WE ACHIEVE GREATNESS.

WHEN I WAS A YOUNGLING, I WAS GRANTED THE TITLE OF CHIEFTESS BECAUSE OUR LAWS STATE THAT WHEN THE WINGED GOBLIN IS BORN, IT MUST BE MADE LEADER OF THE CLAN AS SOON AS IT'S OLD ENOUGH. IN THE BEGINNING OF MY REIGN, I STROVE FOR PEACE WITH OTHER RACES. I TRADED WITH TRIBES OF HUMANS AND SHARED INFORMATION WITH ELVES AND GNOMES. UNTIL ONE DAY, THE HUMANS BETRAYED ME. FEARING WHAT I WAS, THEY SLAUGHTERED MANY VIPER GOBLINS AND TRIED TO KILL ME BY BURNING ME ALIVE. I MANAGED TO ESCAPE, BUT NOT BEFORE THE FIRE TOOK MY BEAUTY, MY WING, AND MY ABILITY TO APPEAR AS A MAJESTIC SYMBOL BEFORE MY RACE.



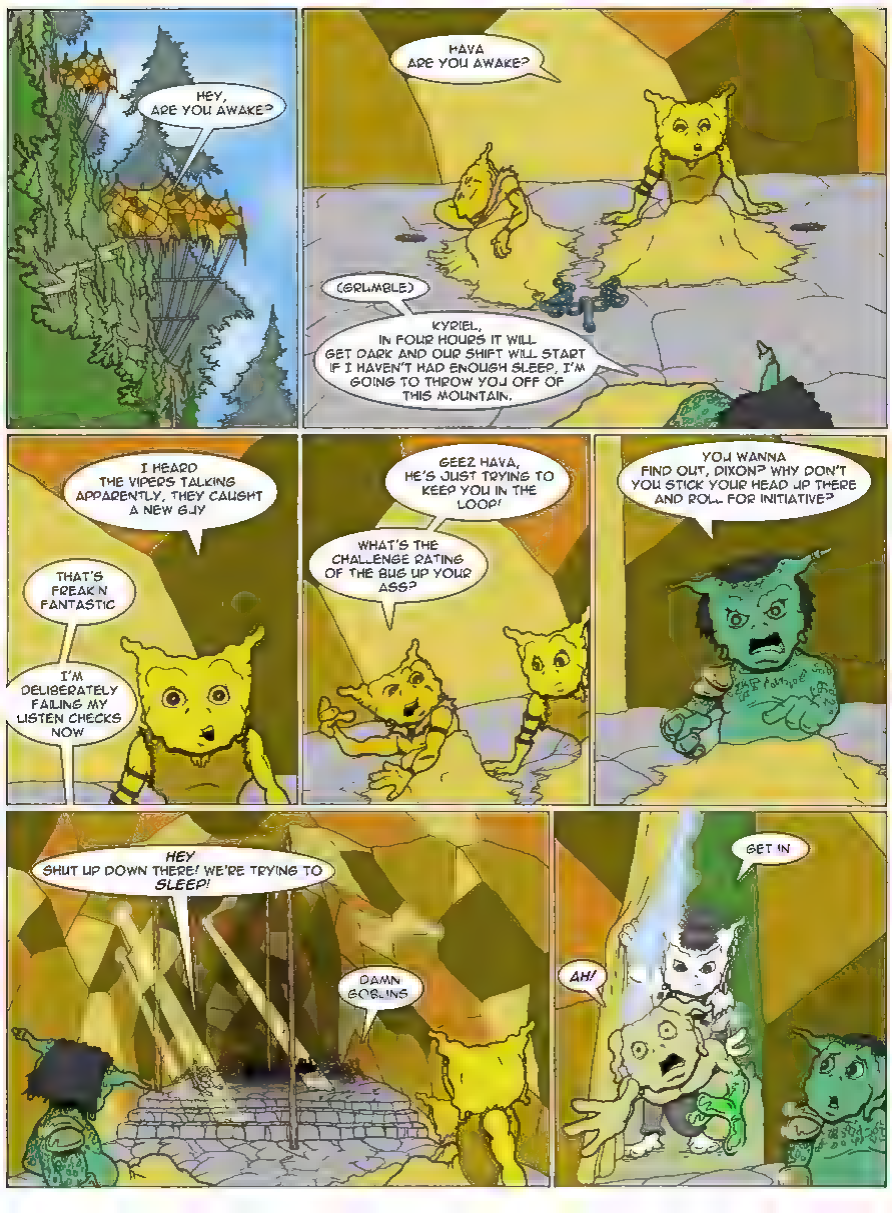
NOW I KNOW THE TRUTH. THIS REALM HOLDS NO FRIEND OF THE GOBLIN. ALL WILL EVENTUALLY BETRAY US AND NONE CAN RESIST MURDERING US FOR THEIR OWN PERSONAL GAIN. ARMED WITH THIS TRUTH, I AM READY TO FULFILL MY REAL DESTINY AND UNITE THE POWER OF MANY GOBLIN CLANS TO CREATE AN ARMY CAPABLE OF WIPING OUT ALL OF OUR ENEMIES AND TURNING THIS REALM INTO A GOBLIN HAVEN.

BUT BEFORE I DO THIS I MUST REPLACE MY STOLEN WING...

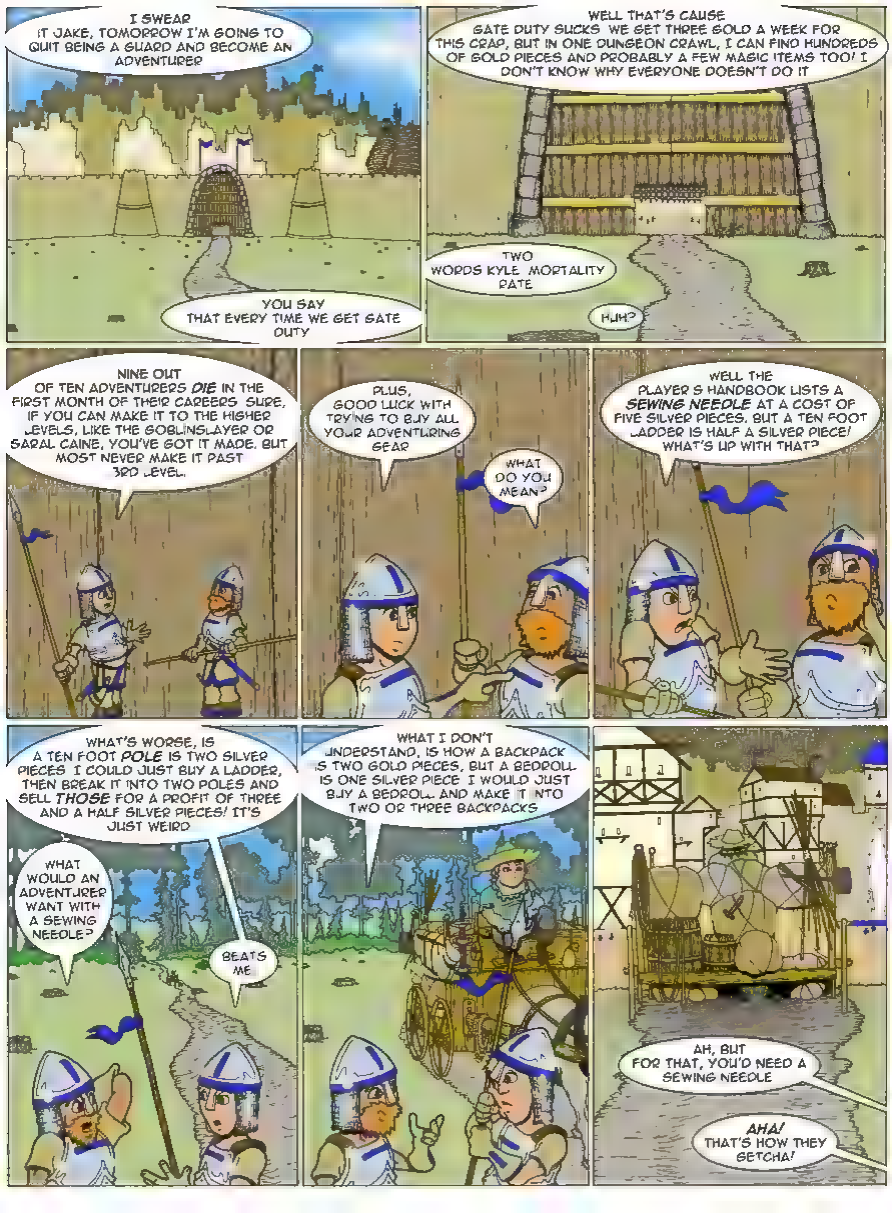
WHA-?
KLIK?
DON'T TRY ANYTHING OR YOU'LL FIND MY BLADE AT YOUR THROAT
SH-CHING
YOU THINK I WAS *LYING*?! SHEATHE YOUR STRANGE WEAPON BEFORE I SLICE YOU OPEN!
SH-CHING
FOR THE LOVE OF THE GODS, WATCH WHERE YOU POINT...
BREM! I TOLD YOU TO KEEP AN EYE ON H.M WHILE THE HEALING POTIONS TOOK EFFECT, NOT KILL HIM! AND AS FOR YOU, OUTSIDER
YOU'LL LOWER YOUR WEAPON IF YOU DON'T WANT TO FACE ME

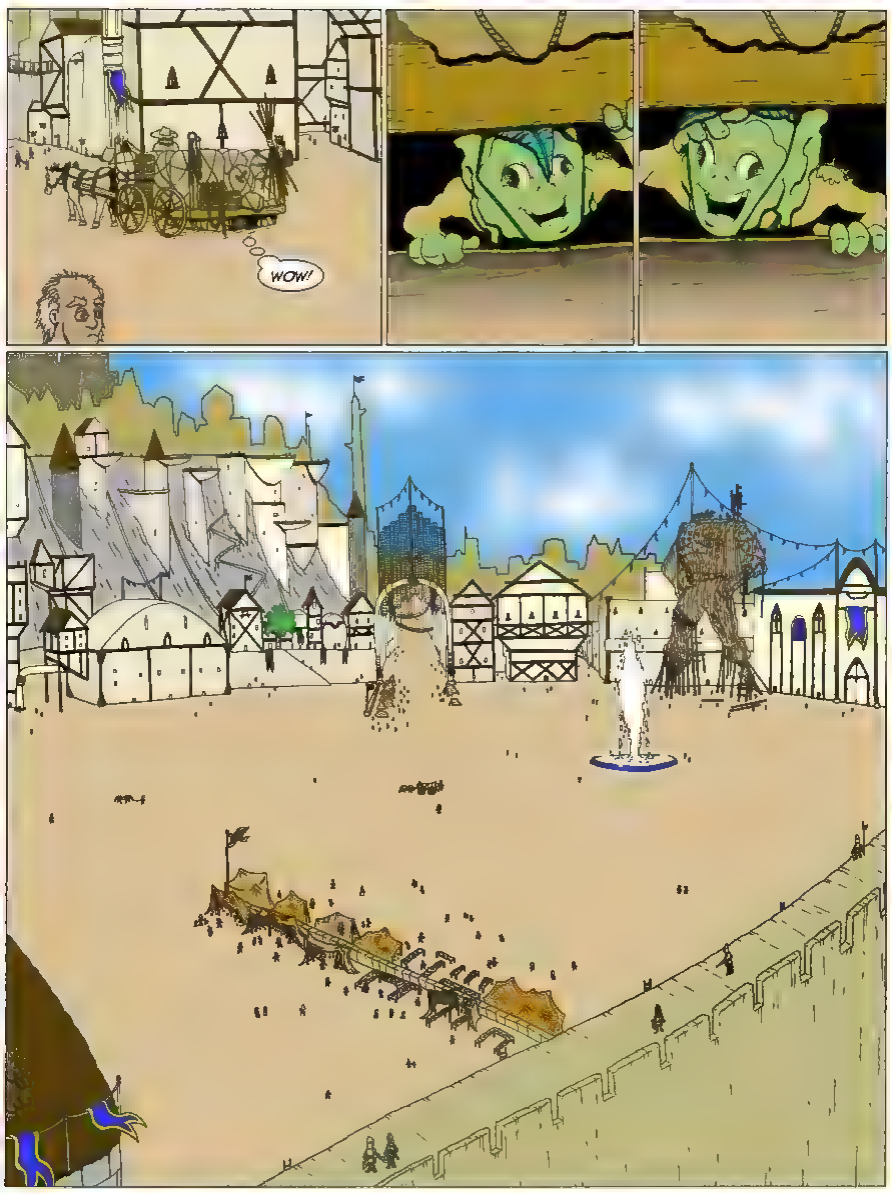
YOU.
.. MY FORTUNE TELLER TALKED ABOUT YOU YOU'RE THE.
YES
I AM
THIS IS OUR TELLER, RISS. THE ANGRY GOBLIN BEHIND YOU IS MY SON, GREM. AND WHO ARE YOU, OUTSIDER?
DIES HORRIBLY
HUMF
YOU SEE, DUH? THIS IS EXACTLY WHY I REFUSE TO NAME BASED ON MY VISIONS
WELL. DIES HORRIBLY, THERE ARE MANY THINGS THAT I'M CURIOUS ABOUT LIKE WHY YOU WERE AWAY FROM YOUR WARCAMP AND WHO SHOT THOSE ARROWS INTO YOU. BUT MOST OF ALL, I'M CURIOUS ABOUT THAT OBVIOUSLY MAGICAL HAND OF YOURS.
AS YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD, I HAVE AN INTEREST IN MAGICAL LIMB REPLACEMENT
THIS? IT'S HARD TO CONTROL AND THE METAL IS REALLY HEAVY. I DON'T THINK YOU WANT A WING MADE OF THIS STUFF.
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE BLUE ORB OF BLOODLIGHT, AREN'T YOU? THE ELDERS TALK OF YOUR PLANS TO USE ITS POWER TO REPLACE YOUR WING.
AND THAT TIME HAS ALMOST COME. THIS WARCAMP IS BUILT AROUND A GIANT, STONE FACE. THE MOUTH OF THIS FACE IS THE ENTRANCE TO A DUNGEON CRAWL CALLED THE WELL OF DARKNESS. WE NOW KNOW THAT THE ORB LIES DEEP WITHIN THIS DUNGEON, BUT TO PASS THROUGH ITS MAGICALLY PROTECTED ENTRANCE, WE NEED SOMETHING CALLED THE KEY OF DARKNESS. AN ITEM THAT I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND DESPITE MY BEST EFFORTS. SO INSTEAD, I'VE BEEN USING SLAVE LABOUR TO DIG AROUND THE ENTRANCE AND CREATE OUR OWN NEW TUNNEL THAT LEADS STRAIGHT INTO THE DUNGEON
WE'VE BEEN COLLECTING BOTH GOBLIN AND NON-GOBLIN SLAVES FOR THIS PURPOSE. I'D GET MY OWN CLAN TO DO THE WORK, BUT I NEED THEM FRESH AND READY TO FIGHT. IT'S ODD, BUT THE CLOSER I GET TO RULING THE WORLD, THE MORE ADVENTURERS I ATTRACT. WE'RE ATTACKED ALMOST TWICE A MONTH NOW. NOT TO MENTION THE OTHER MONSTERS THAT WOULD LOVE TO MOVE IN AND TAKE THE ORB FOR THEMSELVES, NOW THAT I'VE DONE MOST OF THE WORK.
SLAVE LABOUR? YOU MEAN THAT I ?
CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY, OUTSIDER. MANY OF MY SLAVES HAVE BEEN DIGGING FOR MONTHS NOW, BUT YOU'RE JOINING US WHEN WE'RE ALMOST FINISHED
AND ONCE I HAVE THE ORB, ALL THE GOBLIN SLAVES WILL BE RELEASED AS FRIENDS OF THE VIPER CLAN.

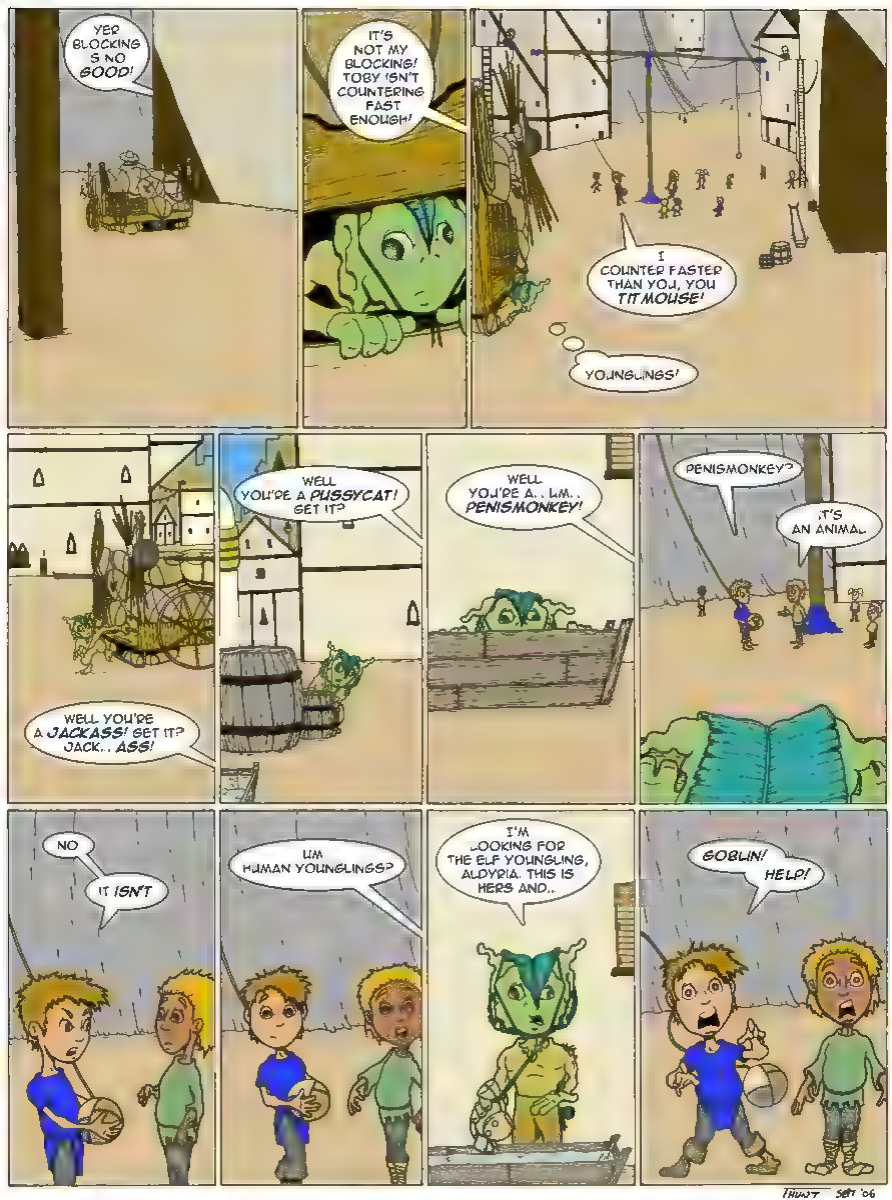
AND WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER RACES? THE NON-GOBLIN SLAVES?
A FRIGHTENING AMOUNT OF DEATH IS NEEDED WHEN BRINGING IN A NEW WORLD ORDER. YOU WOULD BE WISE NOT TO CONCERN YOURSELF WITH THE LIVES OF LESSER BEINGS
NOW COME ON, GREM WILL SHOW YOU YOUR NEW HOME FOR THE NEXT WHILE
AUG 06

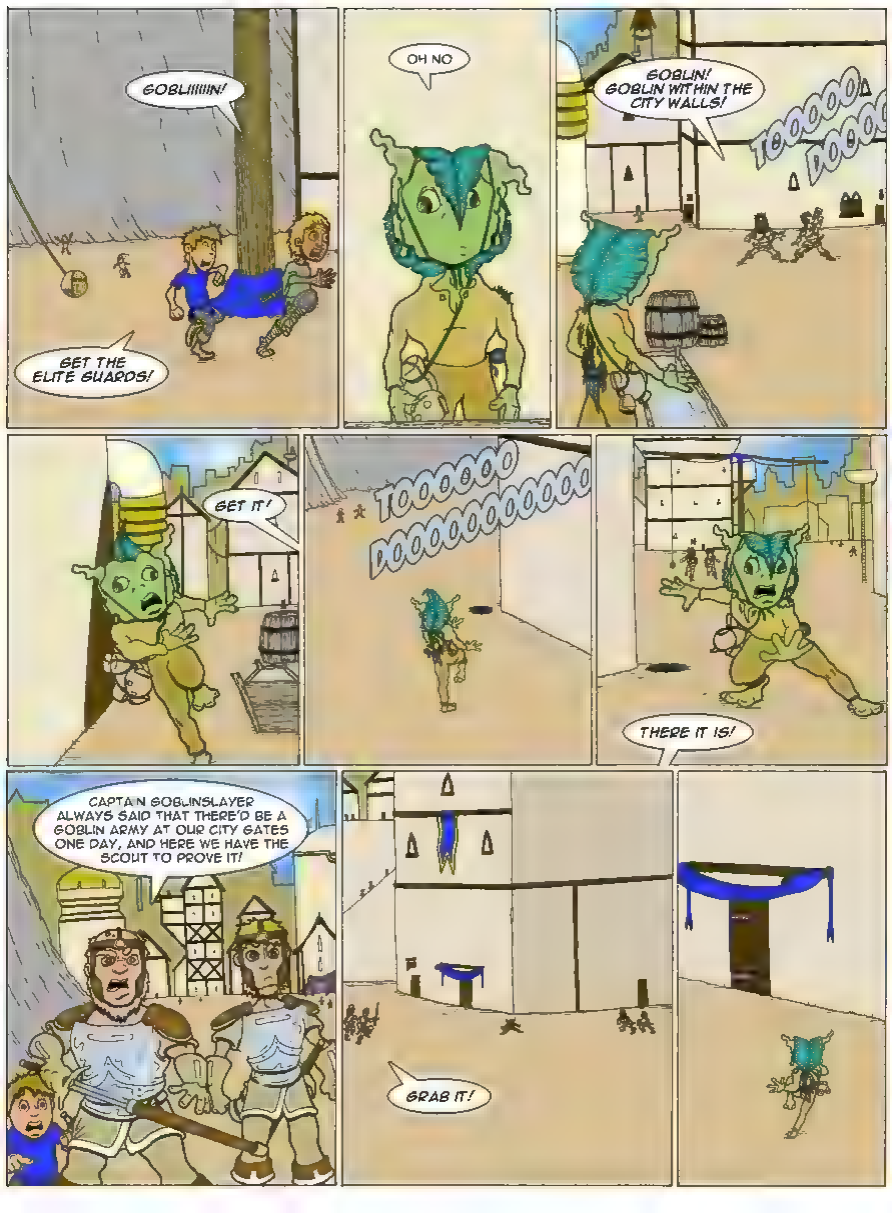

HEY, ARE YOU AWAKE?
HAVA ARE YOU AWAKE?
(GRUMBLE)
KYRIEL, IN FOUR HOURS IT WILL GET DARK AND OUR SHIFT WILL START IF I HAVEN'T HAD ENOUGH SLEEP, I'M GOING TO THROW YOU OFF OF THIS MOUNTAIN.
I HEARD THE VIPERS TALKING APPARENTLY, THEY CAUGHT A NEW GUY
THAT'S FREAKIN FANTASTIC
I'M DELIBERATELY FAILING MY LISTEN CHECKS NOW
GEEZ HAVA, HE'S JUST TRYING TO KEEP YOU IN THE LOOP!
WHAT'S THE CHALLENGE RATING OF THE BUG UP YOUR ASS?
YOU WANNA FIND OUT, DIXON? WHY DON'T YOU STICK YOUR HEAD UP THERE AND ROLL FOR INITIATIVE?
HEY SHUT UP DOWN THERE! WE'RE TRYING TO SLEEP!
DAMN GOBLINS
GET IN
AH!

AW, C'MON GREM DON'T CHAIN HIM UP WITH K'SELISS!
YEAH, THAT'S JUST CRUEL!
WOW, YOU MUST'VE MADE QUITE AN IMPRESSION ON GREM, SHINY HAND
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WELL THEY KEEP THE SLAVE WORKERS CHAINED TOGETHER IN PAIRS. I'M CHAINED TO MY G G BROTHER, DIXON BUT YOU'RE STUCK WITH K'SELISS, WHO S ASLEEP UNDER THOSE BLANKETS THERE. WORKERS CHAINED TO K'SELISS TEND TO DIE HORRIBLY
STOP SCARING THE GUY, KYRIEL I'M SURE HE'LL BE FINE
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, SHINY HAND?
DIES HORRIBLY
YOUCH
I DUNNO WHY SOME CLANS STILL DO THOSE OLD FASHIONED NAMING CEREMONIES. WHO WANTS A NAME LIKE "PICKS BERRIES" OR "PEES DOWN HIS OWN LEG" OR WHATEVER
HAVA'S CLAN STILL DOES THE CEREMONIES TOO HIS FULL NAME IS PISS OFF I HAVA HEADACHE
THAT'S AN ODD NAME
MY PARENTS THOUGHT SO TOO, UNTIL THREE WEEKS AFTER MY NAMING CEREMONY, WHEN THEY LEARNED THAT THE TELLER WASN'T ACTUALLY NAMING ME. HE REALLY DID JUST HAVE A HEADACHE AND HE WANTED EVERYONE TO LEAVE HIM ALONE
COULD'VE BEEN WORSE THOUGH THERE'S A GOBLIN IN MY CLAN NAMED STOP THE CEREMONY I SWALLOWED A BUG
YEAH, OUR TELLER REALLY SUCKS AT NAMING CEREMONIES
THUNT SEPT. '06


I SWEAR IT JAKE, TOMORROW I'M GOING TO QUIT BEING A GUARD AND BECOME AN ADVENTURER
YOU SAY THAT EVERY TIME WE GET GATE DUTY
WELL THAT'S CAUSE GATE DUTY SUCKS WE GET THREE GOLD A WEEK FOR THIS CRAP, BUT IN ONE DUNGEON CRAWL, I CAN FIND HUNDREDS OF GOLD PIECES AND PROBABLY A FEW MAGIC ITEMS TOO! I DON'T KNOW WHY EVERYONE DOESN'T DO IT
TWO WORDS KYLE. MORTALITY RATE
HUH?
NINE OUT OF TEN ADVENTURERS *DIE* IN THE FIRST MONTH OF THEIR CAREERS. SURE, IF YOU CAN MAKE IT TO THE HIGHER LEVELS, LIKE THE GOBLINSLAYER OR SARAL CAINE, YOU'VE GOT IT MADE. BUT MOST NEVER MAKE IT PAST 3RD LEVEL.
PLUS, GOOD LUCK WITH TRYING TO BUY ALL YOUR ADVENTURING GEAR
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WELL THE PLAYER'S HANDBOOK LISTS A ***SEWING NEEDLE*** AT A COST OF FIVE SILVER PIECES. BUT A TEN FOOT LADDER IS HALF A SILVER PIECE! WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?
WHAT'S WORSE, IS A TEN FOOT ***POLE*** IS TWO SILVER PIECES I COULD JUST BUY A LADDER, THEN BREAK IT INTO TWO POLES AND SELL ***THOSE*** FOR A PROFIT OF THREE AND A HALF SILVER PIECES! IT'S JUST WEIRD
WHAT WOULD AN ADVENTURER WANT WITH A SEWING NEEDLE?
BEATS ME
WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND, IS HOW A BACKPACK IS TWO GOLD PIECES, BUT A BEDROLL IS ONE SILVER PIECE I WOULD JUST BUY A BEDROLL AND MAKE IT INTO TWO OR THREE BACKPACKS
AH, BUT FOR THAT, YOU'D NEED A SEWING NEEDLE
AHA! THAT'S HOW THEY GETCHA!


WOW!

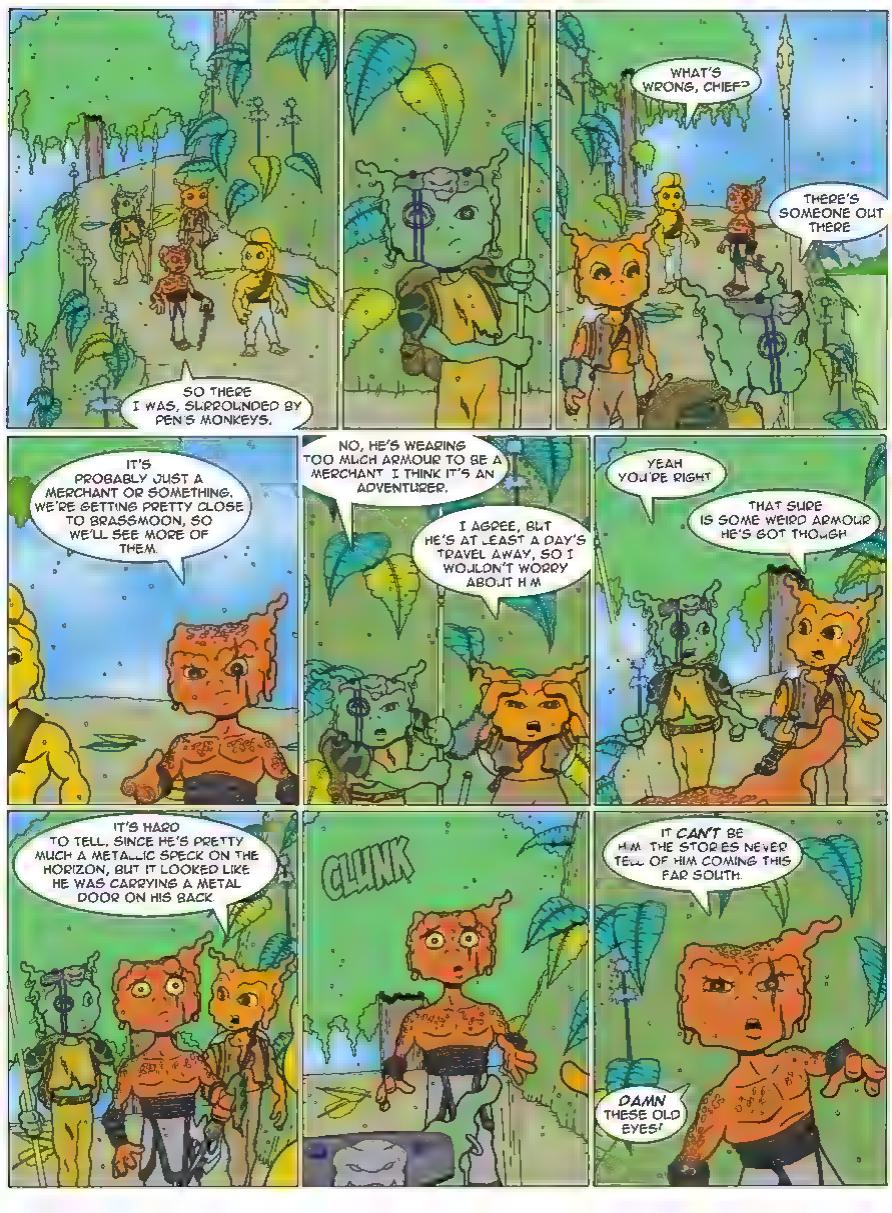

YER BLOCKING S NO GOOD!
IT'S NOT MY BLOCKING! TOBY ISN'T COUNTERING FAST ENOUGH!
I COUNTER FASTER THAN YOU, YOU TIT MOUSE!
YOUNGLINGS!
WELL YOU'RE A PUSSYCAT! GET IT?
WELL YOU'RE A JACKASS! GET IT? JACK.. ASS!
WELL YOU'RE A.. UM.. PENISMONKEY!
PENISMONKEY?
IT'S AN ANIMAL.
NO
IT ISN'T
UM HUMAN YOUNGLINGS?
I'M LOOKING FOR THE ELF YOUNGLING, ALDYRIA. THIS IS HERS AND..
GOBLIN!
HELP!

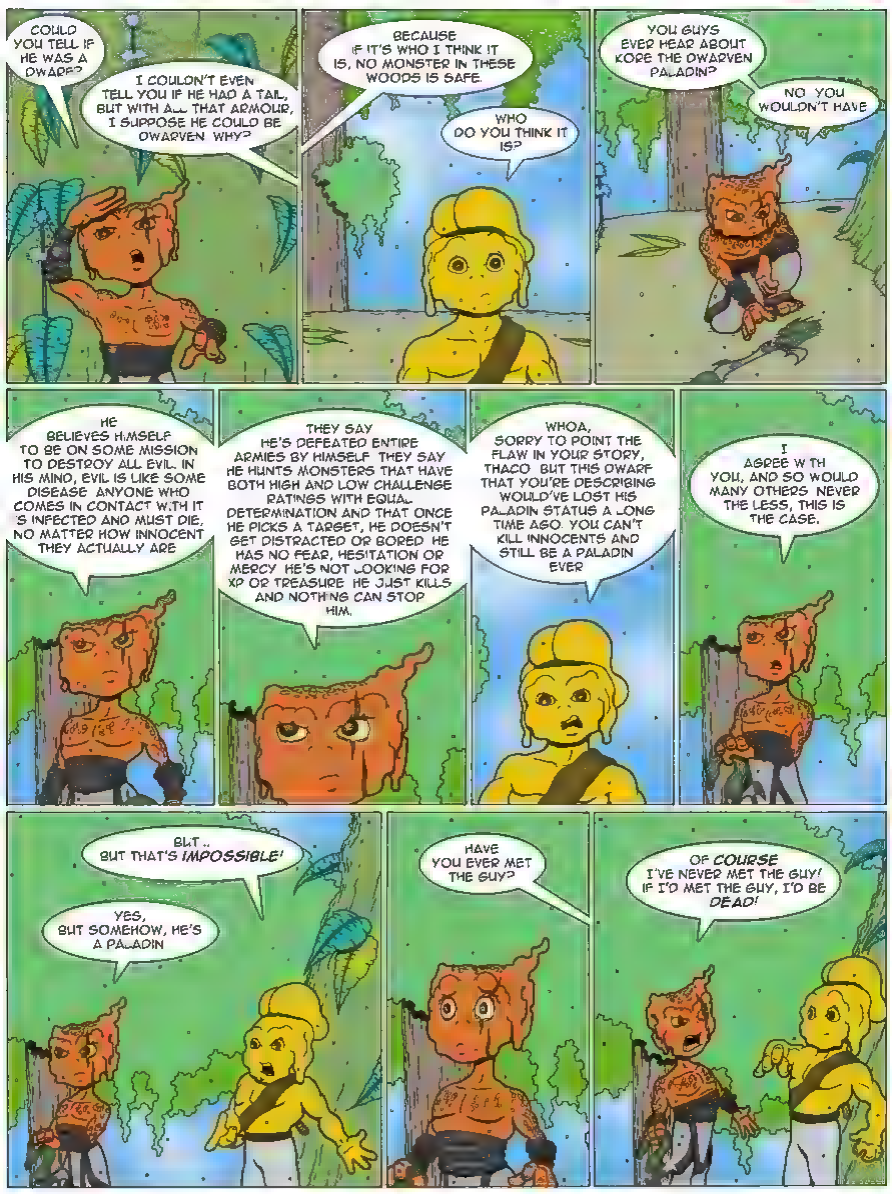

GOBLIIIIIN!
GET THE ELITE GUARDS!
OH NO
GOBLIN! GOBLIN WITHIN THE CITY WALLS!
TOOOOOO
DOOOOO
GET IT!
TOOOOOOO
DOOOOOOOOOOOO
THERE IT IS!
CAPTAIN GOBLINSLAYER ALWAYS SAID THAT THERE'D BE A GOBLIN ARMY AT OUR CITY GATES ONE DAY, AND HERE WE HAVE THE SCOUT TO PROVE IT!
GRAB IT!

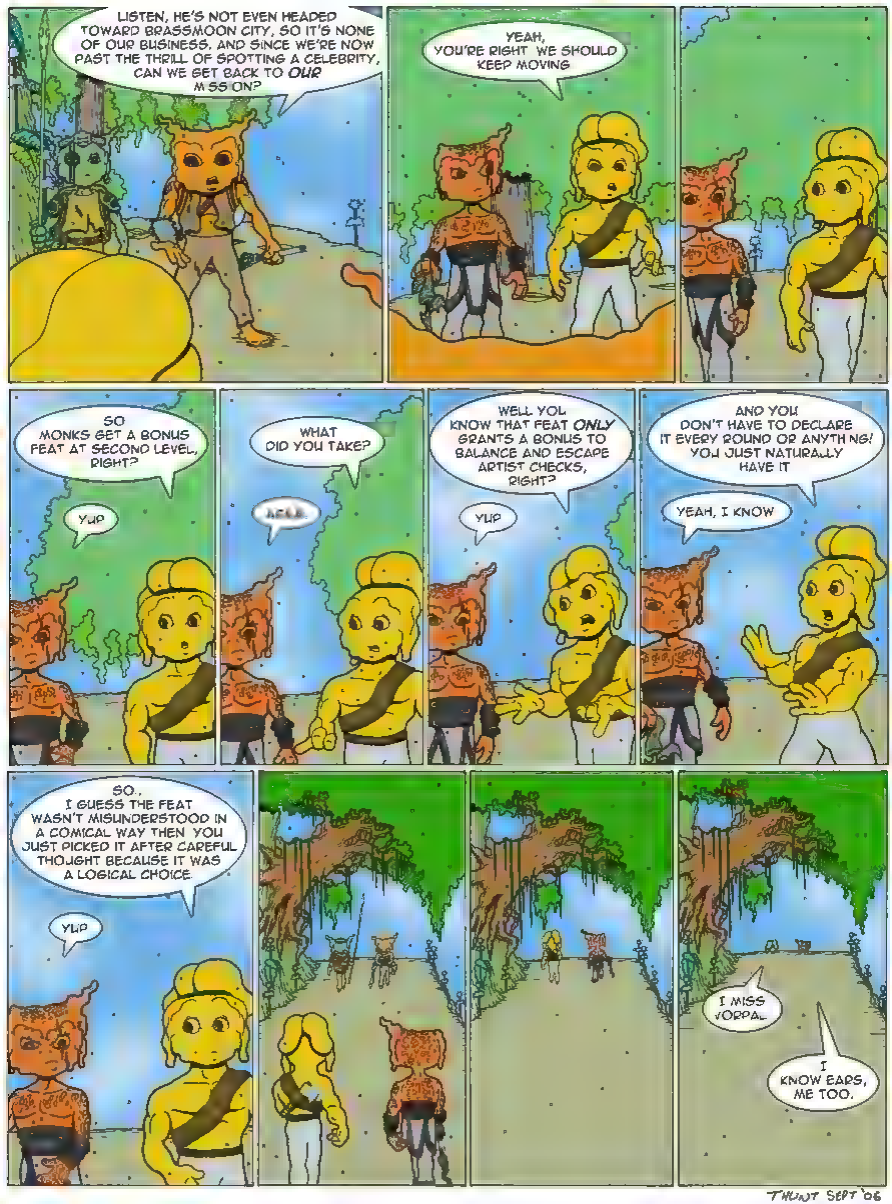
GET UNDER IT! DON'T LET IT GET AWAY!
REG, YOU DUMBASS! GRAB IT!
SHUT UP, I'M TRYING!
I GOT IT!
THUD-CLUNK
SKINNY PETE'S BOOTS
OOF!
NO!
NOOOO!
AAH!
HEY! WHAT THE HELL!
HANK, YOU'RE SUCH A SCREW UP!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT! THIS THING IS FAST!

WOW LOOK AT IT GO!
OOF!
THUMP
HUFF
HUFF
SHCHUNK
GAAAH!
AW GEEZ, IT'S LIEUTENANT CAINE.
WE'RE IN TROUBLE NOW
I FIND IT TROUBLESOME THAT AFTER ALL OF YOUR TRAINING, THIS MANY OF YOU CAN'T CAPTURE ONE GOBLIN
YOU THERE YOU WILL SEE TO IT THAT ELITE GUARDS REPLACE ALL CITY GUARDS AT THE GATES AND OUTER WALL.
AAAH!
CRUNCH
BUT SIR, THE MAYOR WON'T
THE MAYOR WILL AGREE ONCE HE LEARNS THAT GOBLINS ARE FREELY ENTERING HIS CITY
IN THE MEANTIME, YOU WILL FIND CAPTAIN GOBLINSLAYER AND ASK HIM TO MEET ME IN THE LOWER DUNGEON.

THUNT SEPT '06


SO THERE I WAS, SURROUNDED BY PEN'S MONKEYS.
WHAT'S WRONG, CHIEF?
THERE'S SOMEONE OUT THERE
IT'S PROBABLY JUST A MERCHANT OR SOMETHING. WE'RE GETTING PRETTY CLOSE TO BRASSMOON, SO WE'LL SEE MORE OF THEM.
NO, HE'S WEARING TOO MUCH ARMOUR TO BE A MERCHANT. I THINK IT'S AN ADVENTURER.
I AGREE, BUT HE'S AT LEAST A DAY'S TRAVEL AWAY, SO I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT HIM
YEAH YOU'RE RIGHT
THAT SUPE IS SOME WEIRD ARMOUR HE'S GOT THOUGH
IT'S HARD TO TELL, SINCE HE'S PRETTY MUCH A METALLIC SPECK ON THE HORIZON, BUT IT LOOKED LIKE HE WAS CARRYING A METAL DOOR ON HIS BACK
CLUNK
IT CAN'T BE HIM. THE STORIES NEVER TELL OF HIM COMING THIS FAR SOUTH.
DAMN THESE OLD EYES!


COULD YOU TELL IF HE WAS A DWARF?
I COULDN'T EVEN TELL YOU IF HE HAD A TAIL, BUT WITH ALL THAT ARMOUR, I SUPPOSE HE COULD BE DWARVEN. WHY?
BECAUSE IF IT'S WHO I THINK IT IS, NO MONSTER IN THESE WOODS IS SAFE.
WHO DO YOU THINK IT IS?
YOU GUYS EVER HEAR ABOUT KORE THE DWARVEN PALADIN?
NO. YOU WOULDN'T HAVE
HE BELIEVES HIMSELF TO BE ON SOME MISSION TO DESTROY ALL EVIL. IN HIS MIND, EVIL IS LIKE SOME DISEASE. ANYONE WHO COMES IN CONTACT W.TH IT 'S INFECTED AND MUST DIE, NO MATTER HOW INNOCENT THEY ACTUALLY ARE.
THEY SAY HE'S DEFEATED ENTIRE ARMIES BY HIMSELF. THEY SAY HE HUNTS MONSTERS THAT HAVE BOTH HIGH AND LOW CHALLENGE RATINGS WITH EQUAL DETERMINATION AND THAT ONCE HE PICKS A TARGET, HE DOESN'T GET DISTRACTED OR BORED. HE HAS NO FEAR, HESITATION OR MERCY. HE'S NOT LOOKING FOR XP OR TREASURE. HE JUST KILLS AND NOTHING CAN STOP HIM.
WHOA, SORRY TO POINT THE FLAW IN YOUR STORY, THACO. BUT THIS DWARF THAT YOU'RE DESCRIBING WOULD'VE LOST HIS PALADIN STATUS A LONG TIME AGO. YOU CAN'T KILL INNOCENTS AND STILL BE A PALADIN. EVER.
I AGREE W TH YOU, AND SO WOULD MANY OTHERS. NEVER THE LESS, THIS IS THE CASE.
BUT .. BUT THAT'S *IMPOSSIBLE!*
YES, BUT SOMEHOW, HE'S A PALADIN
HAVE YOU EVER MET THE GUY?
OF *COURSE* I'VE NEVER MET THE GUY! IF I'D MET THE GUY, I'D BE *DEAD!*


LISTEN, HE'S NOT EVEN HEADED TOWARD BRASSMOON CITY, SO IT'S NONE OF OUR BUSINESS. AND SINCE WE'RE NOW PAST THE THRILL OF SPOTTING A CELEBRITY, CAN WE GET BACK TO OUR MISSION?
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT WE SHOULD KEEP MOVING
SO MONKS GET A BONUS FEAT AT SECOND LEVEL, RIGHT?
YUP
WHAT DID YOU TAKE?
AGILE
WELL YOU KNOW THAT FEAT ONLY GRANTS A BONUS TO BALANCE AND ESCAPE ARTIST CHECKS, RIGHT?
YUP
AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO DECLARE IT EVERY ROUND OR ANYTHING! YOU JUST NATURALLY HAVE IT
YEAH, I KNOW
SO, I GUESS THE FEAT WASN'T MISUNDERSTOOD IN A COMICAL WAY THEN YOU JUST PICKED IT AFTER CAREFUL THOUGHT BECAUSE IT WAS A LOGICAL CHOICE
YUP
I MISS VORPAL
I KNOW EARS, ME TOO.

THAT'S MY SIDE! YOU'RE ON MY SIDE, DIXON!
NO, WE AGREED THAT YOUR SIDE ENDS RIGHT AT THIS BEETLE
BUT THE BEETLE KEEPS WALKING TOWARD ME!
YOU TWO WANNA KEEP IT DOWN? YOU'RE GONNA WAKE K'SELISS
UGHH
AW TERRIFIC NOW LOOK WHAT YOU GUYS DID
YAWN!
WHO'S THE NEW GUY?
SH-CHING
WOW! I DIDN'T KNOW YOUR HAND COULD DO THAT!
COOL! HOW DO YOU ACTIVATE IT?
PLEASE DON'T KILL ME
THE HELL? WHY WOULD I WANT TO KILL YOU?

OH, THAT'S NOT K'SELISS THAT'S 'SAVES A FOX'
BUT I THOUGHT
OH
SHLINK
GRRRRRRR...
THAT'S K'SELISS
WHO DARES TO WAKE K'SELISS?
SH-CHING
OH, NOW I SEE HOW THE HAND WORKS IT'S ACTIVATED BY WETTING YOURSELF

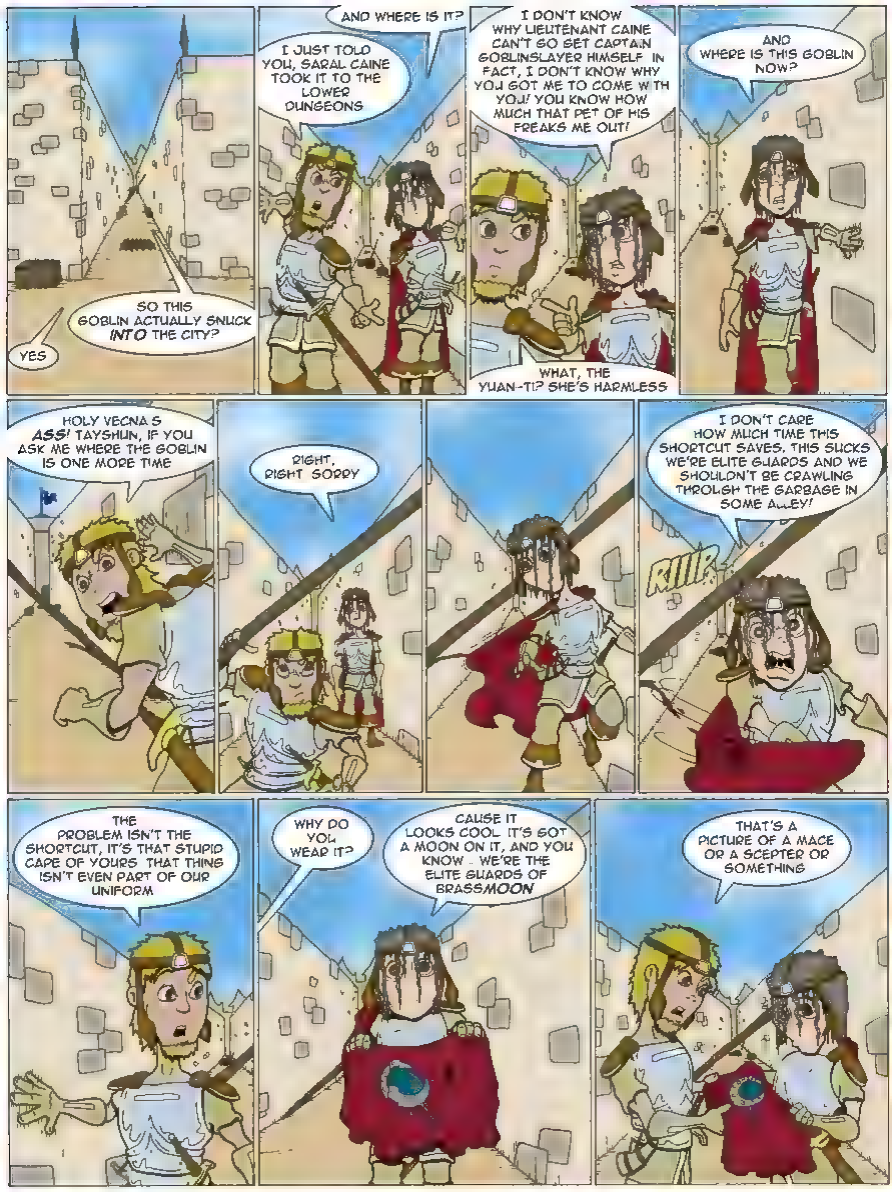
THUNT OCT '06

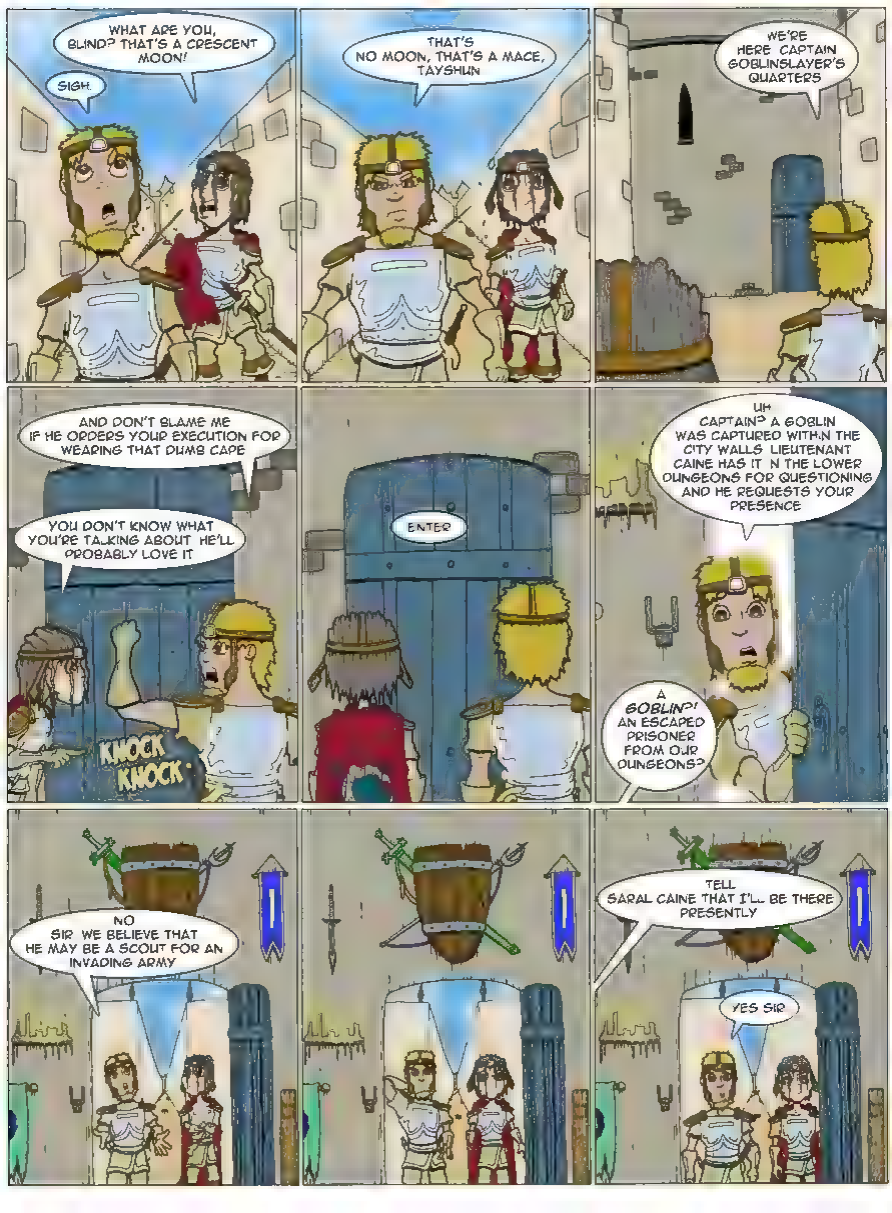
NEW MEAT, EH?
WELL YOU LISTEN VERY CLOSELY LITTLE MEAL. I AM THE MOST FEARED OF ALL LIZARDFOLK. I HAVE SWALLOWED ADVENTURERS WHOLE
I HAVE RIPPED THE SPINES OUT OF PALADINS WHILE THEY SCREAMED FOR MERCY! I HAVE STOOD BEFORE ENTIRE GUILDS OF WIZARDS AND.
..SURVIVED SPELLS MORE TERRIFYING THAN YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE
SO WHILE WE'RE CHAINED TOGETHER, YOU DO *WHAT* I SAY, *WHEN* I SAY IT!
OH, GIVE IT A REST, K'SELISS! WE ALL KNOW THAT IF YOU EAT ONE MORE DIGGER, THE VIPER CLAN WILL FEED YOU TO THE WORGS!
YOU BETTER WATCH YOUR MOUTH FOX, OR
OR *WHAT*? I'LL.. MASH YOU INTO A STICKY PASTE BEFORE YOU EVEN KNOW YOU'RE IN A FIGHT!

...OUSY STINKIN GOBLINS EVERYWHERE I TURN MUMBLE GRUMBLE COMPLAIN
AND THAT, DIES HORRIBLY, IS WHY A LIZARDFOLK IS CHAINED UP IN THE GOBLIN SECTION FOX IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN USUALLY KEEP HIM IN LINE.
TRUST ME, I'M TOUGHER THAN I LOOK
WELL, THEN WHY DION'T THEY JUST MAKE YOU HIS PARTNER?
CAUSE FOX AND I ARE SQUEEZERS AND SQUEEZERS DON'T HAVE PARTNERS OUR JOB IS TO SQUEEZE INTO THOSE TIGHT SPACES AND CHIP AWAY AT THE WEAKEST POINTS OF THE ROCK, SO THAT BY THE TIME THE DIGGERS GET TO THAT AREA, THE STONE IS NICE AND WEAKENED
HERE NEW GUY, YOU CAN HAVE MY BLANKET IF YOU WANT I DON'T NEED IT
THANKS
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT LIZARDFOLK COULD GET THAT BIG
SHI-CA
I DON'T THINK THEY CAN, NORMALLY I THINK HE'S GOT TRACES OF OGRE IN HIM OR SOMETHING THEY SAY K'SELISS WAS MUTATED BY SOME MAD WIZARD WHO HAD A THING FOR MAGICALLY COMBINING RACES I HEAR THERE'S EVEN A HUMAN/STONE GIANT LIVING IN BRASSMOON CITY. HEH

SO, "DIES HORRIBLY" IS IT? THAT'S GOTTA BE ROUGH.
I WOULDN'T DWELL ON IT THOUGH. IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S SET IN STONE.
WHAT? THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT IT'S LIKE. IT'S MY DESTINY
MY FATHER IS OUR CLAN'S TELLER. WHEN I WAS THREE YEARS OLD, HE TOLD ME THAT ON MY FIFTH BIRTHDAY, I WOULD MEET THE FOX THAT I WAS MEANT TO SAVE. I REMEMBER BEING REALLY ANGRY BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO BE A PUPPET TO SOME DESTINY. I WANTED TO MAKE MY OWN CHOICES. SURE ENOUGH, ON MY FIFTH BIRTHDAY, A FOX SNUCK INTO OUR VILLAGE AND FOUND HIS WAY INTO THE HOLLOW TREE WHERE WE STORE OUR FOOD. THE WHOLE VILLAGE WATCHED AS I CLIMBED INTO THAT DAMN TREE. WHEN I FOUND THE FOX, HE WAS GORGING HIMSELF. HE WASN'T EVEN AFRAID OF ME.
AND THEN YOU SAVED HIM?
THEN I KILLED HIM.
WHAT?! WHY? WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT?
I TOLD YOU, I'M NO PUPPET TO DESTINY. I KEEP THIS TAIL AS A REMINDER THAT NOTHING CONTROLS ME. I MAKE MY OWN FATE.
AND SO DO YOU, DIES HORRIBLY.

THUNT oct '06


SO THIS GOBLIN ACTUALLY SNUCK INTO THE CITY?
YES
I JUST TOLD YOU, SARAL CAINE TOOK IT TO THE LOWER DUNGEONS
AND WHERE IS IT?
I DON'T KNOW WHY LIEUTENANT CAINE CAN'T GO GET CAPTAIN GOBLINSLAYER HIMSELF IN FACT, I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU GOT ME TO COME WITH YOU! YOU KNOW HOW MUCH THAT PET OF HIS FREAKS ME OUT!
WHAT, THE YUAN-TI? SHE'S HARMLESS
AND WHERE IS THIS GOBLIN NOW?
HOLY VECNA'S ASS! TAYSHUN, IF YOU ASK ME WHERE THE GOBLIN IS ONE MORE TIME
RIGHT, RIGHT SORRY
I DON'T CARE HOW MUCH TIME THIS SHORTCUT SAVES. THIS SUCKS WE'RE ELITE GUARDS AND WE SHOULDN'T BE CRAWLING THROUGH THE GARBAGE IN SOME ALLEY!
KILL?
THE PROBLEM ISN'T THE SHORTCUT, IT'S THAT STUPID CAPE OF YOURS THAT THING ISN'T EVEN PART OF OUR UNIFORM
WHY DO YOU WEAR IT?
CAUSE IT LOOKS COOL IT'S GOT A MOON ON IT, AND YOU KNOW - WE'RE THE ELITE GUARDS OF BRASSMOON
THAT'S A PICTURE OF A MACE OR A SCEPTER OR SOMETHING


WHAT ARE YOU, BLIND? THAT'S A CRESCENT MOON!
SIGH.
THAT'S NO MOON, THAT'S A MACE, TAYSHUN
WE'RE HERE CAPTAIN GOBLINSLAYER'S QUARTERS
AND DON'T BLAME ME IF HE ORDERS YOUR EXECUTION FOR WEARING THAT DUMB CAPE
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT HE'LL PROBABLY LOVE IT
KNOCK KNOCK
ENTER
UH CAPTAIN? A GOBLIN WAS CAPTURED WITHIN THE CITY WALLS LIEUTENANT CAINE HAS IT IN THE LOWER DUNGEONS FOR QUESTIONING AND HE REQUESTS YOUR PRESENCE
A GOBLIN?! AN ESCAPED PRISONER FROM OUR DUNGEONS?
NO SIR WE BELIEVE THAT HE MAY BE A SCOUT FOR AN INVADING ARMY
TELL SARAL CAINE THAT I'LL BE THERE PRESENTLY
YES SIR

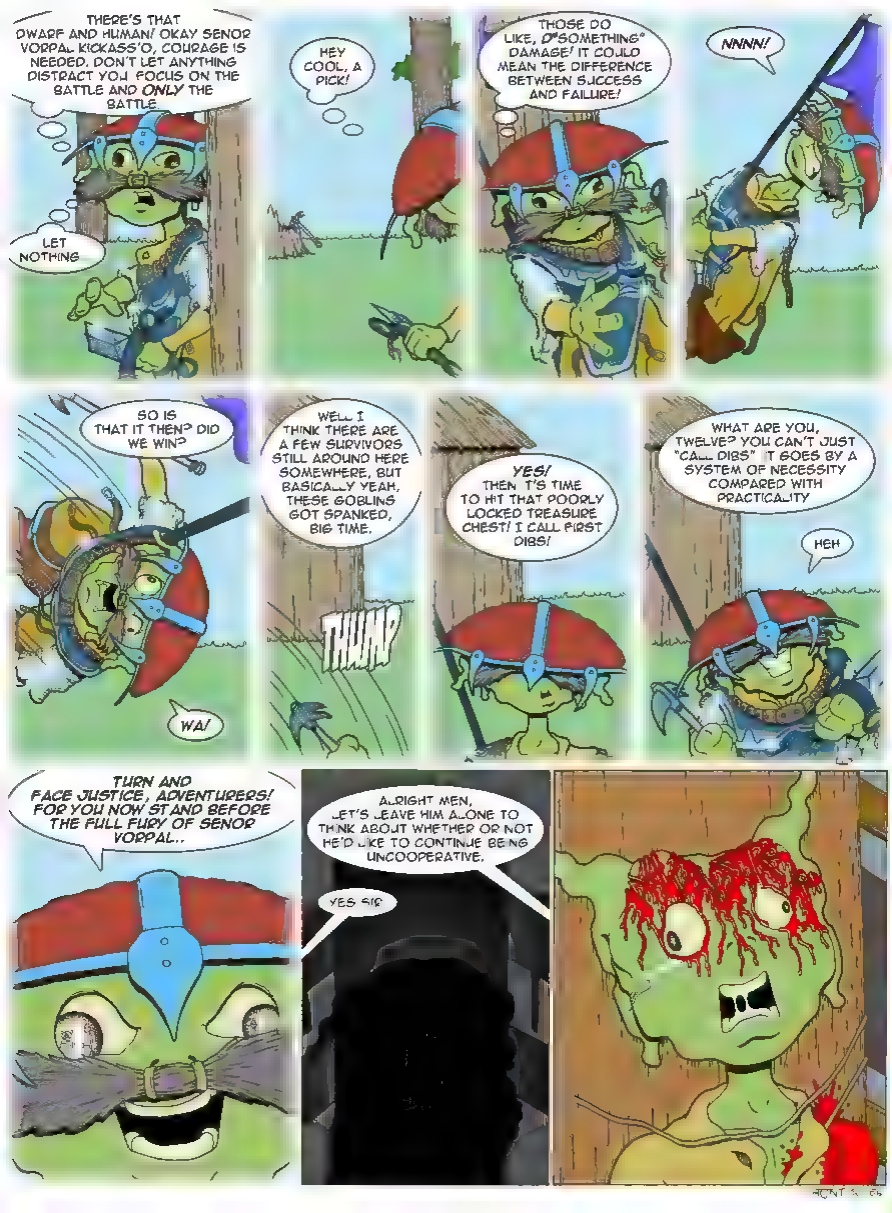
AND GUARD?
ME SIR?
YOU'LL REMOVE THAT CAPE AND IF I EVER SEE YOU OUT OF UNIFORM LIKE THAT AGAIN, I'LL HAVE YOU EXECUTED
YES SIR
CLICK
BAAA HA HA!
KISS MY ASS, HANK
AAAH! AH!
AAHAAAA!
AAAH!

IT'S BEEN AWHILE NOW ARE YOU SURE HE'S COMING?
HE SAID THAT HE'D BE HERE "PRESENTLY"
MAYBE IT'S BEEN SOAKED IN SOME MAGICAL DISEASE MEANT TO WIPE OUT DUD CITY
WHY WOULD A GOBLIN BE CARRYING AROUND A CHILD'S TOY?
GAAA!
HEH HEH RELAX, I'M KIDDING.
MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING VALUABLE INSIDE IT
YOU ASS! YOU'RE WORSE THAN THE STINKING GOBLIN
THUNK
NNNNNNNOOOOO!

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN YOUR PLACE, GUARD? WHAT HAPPENS TO THE GOBLIN'S BELONGINGS IS UP TO CAPTAIN GOBLINSLAYER!
YOU SHOULD LISTEN TO SARAL CAINE
I'VE ADVENTURED WITH HIM FOR YEARS AND IF THERE'S ONE THING I'VE LEARNED IT'S THAT HE'S USUALLY RIGHT
YOU HOLD ONTO KIN
ME SIR? BUT UH... I DON'T UM... THINK THAT...
OH GIMME A BREAK, GUARD! IT'S A MAGICAL LEASH AND COLLAR AS LONG AS SOMEONE HOLDS THE LEASH SHE CAN COMMIT NO VIOLENT ACT, ESPECIALLY AGAINST THE HOLDER, AND ALL OF HER YUAN-TI POWERS ARE SUPPRESSED!
BUT... IT'S JUST THAT KIN IS... WELL SHE CREEPS ME OUT AND
OH DO YOURSELF A FAVOUR AND STOP TRYING TO JUSTIFY YOUR COWARDICE
NOW THEN, LET'S SEE WHAT WE HAVE HERE

WHERE IS THE GOBLIN ARMY YOU ARE SCOUTING FOR?
AH!
WHAT? I.. I DON'T KNOW I.. PLEASE. I JUST WANNA GO HOME
GOBLIN SLAYER
GOBLIN SLAYER
YOU DON'T KNOW THIS YET, BUT ALL OF THE KNIVES BEHIND YOU HERE WERE INVENTED BY ME THEY TOOK COUNTLESS HOURS OF RESEARCH TO CREATE
EACH KNIFE IS SPECIFICALLY MADE FOR A CERTAIN TYPE OF FLESH. THIS ONE IS MY FAVORITE IT'S BEEN NICKNAMED THE FINGER OF HELL AND IS DESIGNED TO TEAR GOBLIN FLESH IN SUCH A WAY AS TO CAUSE THE MOST PAIN POSSIBLE
OH, I SUPPOSE IT'D HURT ANY MONSTER THAT I CHOSE TO USE IT ON, BUT TO A GOBLIN WELL.
I COULD SHOW YOU NIGHTMARES THAT YOU NEVER KNEW EXISTED

AND THE FINGER OF HELL DOES MORE THAN JUST HURT IN A GOBLIN, IT CAUSES GROTESQUE, PERMANENT SCARRING
NOW. I'M GOING TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE GOBLIN ARMY AGAIN AND I REALLY .
REALLY HOPE THAT YOU CONTINUE TO LIE TO ME
WHERE IS YOUR ARMY AND WHEN ARE THEY PLANNING TO ATTACK?
MMMMHMM!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT BUT PLEASE DON'T HURT ME, OKAY? JUST LET ME GO HOME, OKAY? PLEASE?
SEH
MAYBE I M MISJUDGING YOU MAYBE THERE IS NO ARMY AND MAYBE YOU'RE NO SCOUT MAYBE WHEN YOU ENTERED MY BEAUTIFUL CITY, IT WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING
MAYBE YOU TRESPASSED BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT THAT YOU WERE A CIVILIZED HUMANOID, LIKE A HUMAN OR PERHAPS A GNOME
MAYBE
YOU'VE FORGOTTEN WHAT YOU ARE!
MAYBE I SHOULD MAKE SURE YOU NEVER FORGET AGAIN
NO WAIT! PLEASE, JUST WAIT A SECOND, OKAY? JUST... NO!
NOOOMMM!
AAAAAHH!
NNNNAHHH!


THERE'S THAT DWARF AND HUMAN! OKAY SENOR VORPAL KICKASS'O, COURAGE IS NEEDED. DON'T LET ANYTHING DISTRACT YOU! FOCUS ON THE BATTLE AND ONLY THE BATTLE
LET NOTHING
HEY COOL, A PICK!
THOSE DO LIKE, D*SOMETHING* DAMAGE! IT COULD MEAN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUCCESS AND FAILURE!
NNNN!
SO IS THAT IT THEN? DID WE WIN?
WA!
WELL I THINK THERE ARE A FEW SURVIVORS STILL AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE, BUT BASICALLY YEAH. THESE GOBLINS GOT SPANKED, BIG TIME.
THUMP
YES! THEN IT'S TIME TO HIT THAT POORLY LOCKED TREASURE CHEST! I CALL FIRST DIBS!
WHAT ARE YOU, TWELVE? YOU CAN'T JUST "CALL DIBS" IT GOES BY A SYSTEM OF NECESSITY COMPARED WITH PRACTICALITY
HEH
TURN AND FACE JUSTICE, ADVENTURERS! FOR YOU NOW STAND BEFORE THE FULL FURY OF SENOR VORPAL..
ALRIGHT MEN, LET'S LEAVE HIM ALONE TO THINK ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT HE'D LIKE TO CONTINUE BEING UNCOOPERATIVE.
YES SIR

YOU SENT FOR ME, MOTHER?
I DID
YOU'RE BRINGING FOOD AND CLEAN BLANKETS TO SAVES A FOX AGAIN, AREN'T YOU
AND WHAT IF I AM? DOES IT NOT SERVE OUR CLAN TO HAVE HEALTHY SLAVES?
GREM. WE CAN ALL SEE THAT YOU'RE ATTRACTED TO HER
THERE IS NO SHAME IN YOUR ATTRACTION. HER COMBAT SKILLS ARE ASTOUNDING AND SHE HAS MORE COURAGE THAN MANY CHIEFS I'VE MET. BUT YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT AS HER CAPTOR. YOU ARE HER ENEMY. SHE WILL HATE YOU FOREVER AND BRINGING HER A THOUSAND BLANKETS WON'T CHANGE THAT
CAREFUL WITH THOSE WORDS, RISS IT'S BECOMING EVEN MORE OBVIOUS THAT YOU ENJOY WATCHING OTHERS SUFFER
HAVING AN INTEREST IN THE SUFFERING OF OTHERS IS MERELY A NATURAL SURVIVAL INSTINCT. THE MORE SUFFERING I WATCH, THE MORE EDUCATED I BECOME AND THE BETTER EQUIPPED I AM FOR AVOIDING FUTURE MISHAPS OF MY OWN
THAT'S ENOUGH, RISS GREM, I SUMMONED YOU BECAUSE A SHORT TIME AGO, THE DAYTIME DIGGING CREW SUCCEEDED IN PUNCHING A HOLE INTO THE DUNGEON CRAWL. OUR TUNNEL NOW LEADS DIRECTLY INTO THE FIRST ROOM OF THE WELL OF DARKNESS

WHAT?
WELL THAT'S GREAT! I WILL IMMEDIATELY GATHER THE EIGHT GOBLIN WARRIORS WHO WERE CHOSEN TO VENTURE INTO "THE WELL" WITH ME!
YOU WILL HAVE THE ORB OF BLOODLIGHT BEFORE THE SUN COMES UP
THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE OF PLANS AS SOON AS THE WELL WAS OPENED UP, RISS HAD A VISION.
I SAW THAT ALTHOUGH YOL WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL N RETRIEVING THE ORB, MOST OF YOUR GROUP WOULD DIE IN THAT DUNGEON CRAWL. THIS TROUBLED ME, SINCE THE LOSS OF OUR GREATEST WARRIORS WOULD LEAVE US VULNERABLE TO OUR ENEMIES. THEN, AS THE VISION CONTINUED, I SAW THAT IF WE WERE TO SEND IN FOX, K'SELISS AND THE NEW ONE CALLED DIES HORRIBLY, THEY WOULD SUCCEED AND WE WOULD STILL HAVE ALL OF OUR WARRIORS
THAT CANNOT BE, RISS! SAVES A FOX, AN INSANE REPTILE AND A SHAKY COWARD CANNOT ACCOMPLISH THE SAME TASKS AS THE VIPER CLAN'S BEST WARRIORS!
WELL OF COURSE NOT BUT WHILE YOUR GROUP WOULD FIND THE ORB THROUGH FINE TRAINING AND SUPERIOR SKILLS, THE THREE MISFITS WOULD SUCCEED WITH BLIND LUCK AND HAPPENSTANCE THIS IS WHY IT MUST ONLY BE THE THREE OF THEM IF ANYONE ELSE GOES WITH THEM, THEIR ACTIONS WILL BE DIFFERENT AND SUCCESS WILL NOT BE GUARANTEED BUT FEAR NOT GREM, YOUR LOVELY FOX WILL SURVIVE ONLY K'SELISS AND DES HORRIBLY WILL PERISH IN THAT TERRIBLE PLACE.
RISS, THE NINE OF US HAVE SWORN OUR LIVES FOR THE GOOD OF OUR CLAN AND FOR ALL GOBLIN KIND! WE'RE PREPARED TO DIE FOR THIS CAUSE! NOW, I DON'T LIKE K'SELISS AND DIES HORRIBLY, BUT NO ONE DESERVES TO BE FORCED TO FIGHT AND DIE FOR SOMEONE ELSE'S BELIEFS!
I AGREE WITH YOU AND I DON'T LIKE IT ANYMORE THAN YOU DO, BUT IF I CAN CHOOSE BETWEEN THE POSSIBLE DEATH OF MY SON, AND THE DEATHS OF A LIZARDFOLK AND A GOBLIN FROM A SHAMED CLAN, I WILL CHOOSE YOUR LIFE
MOTHER, ASIDE FROM YOU, I AM THE BEST WARRIOR IN THIS CLAN IT IS MY DUTY TO FACE DANGER! YOU CAN'T JUST
THERE WILL BE NO MORE DISCUSSION ABOUT THIS.

CHIEFTESS! HOBGOBLINS!
HOBGOBLINS APPROACH FROM THE LOWER PATHS!
WHAT?
THEY BEAR THE MARKINGS OF THE CHORGRAK CLAN AND ARE MARCHING IN AN ORDER THAT SUGGESTS A PEACEFUL APPROACH. THEY MAY HAVE COME MERELY TO TRADE
THE CHORGRAK ARE USUALLY MORE INTERESTED IN KILLING THINGS THAN TRADING WITH THEM. HOW MANY DID YOU SEE?
OVER SIXTY, CHIEFTESS
"PEACEFUL APPROACH" MY ASS
GREM, TAKE THREE WAR PARTIES AND STAY OUT OF SIGHT ON THE SECOND RIDGE. DESIGNATE ONE PARTY AS RANGED ATTACKERS AND HAVE THEM STAY UP THERE. IF A BATTLE SHOULD START, YOU'LL LEAD THE OTHER TWO PARTIES INTO COMBAT
RISS, TAKE ONE WAR PARTY AND STAY NEAR THE DUNGEON TUNNEL ENTRANCE
ONLY ONE? BUT DUV
IF WE PLACE ANY MORE THERE, THE TUNNEL WILL LOOK LIKE SOMETHING OF VALUE. NOW GO

YOU BE THE ONE W.NEED, VIPER CLAN CHIEF THAT OTHER CLANS TALK OF?
NO, I'M THAT OTHER ONE WINGED GOBLIN
WHERE BE VIPER CHIEF?
SIGH
I'M THE CHIEF, WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I BE BORRL, CHIEF OF CHORGRAK CLAN MY FATHER'S FATHER CLAIMED THIS DUNGEON CRAWL AND ANY TREASURE INSIDE IT FOR CHORGRAK YOU LEAVE NOW, YOU LIVE YOU STAY AND YOU BE CRUSHES!
THAT'S A FILTHY LIE! YOU JUST WANT IT NOW BECAUSE
I WONDER BORRL, IF THIS PLACE WAS SO ADAMANTLY CLAIMED, WHY THERE WERE NO MARKINGS WHEN WE GOT HERE
I DON'T THINK THAT YOUR CLAN HAS EVER CLAIMED THE WELL OF DARKNESS. I THINK THAT YOU'VE HEARD THE RUMOURS CONCERNING HOW WE'RE ABOUT TO FIND A POWERFUL TEM INSIDE, AND NOW YOU WANT IT

WE BIGGER THAN YOU!
WE STRONGER THAN YOU!
GIVE US THE DUNGEON WITH THE ORB OR YOU ALL BE CRUSHES!
YOUR HAND WHAT THAT MEAN?
THAT'S THE SIGNAL.
ZIP
SHWA-THUNK
THURT NOV '06

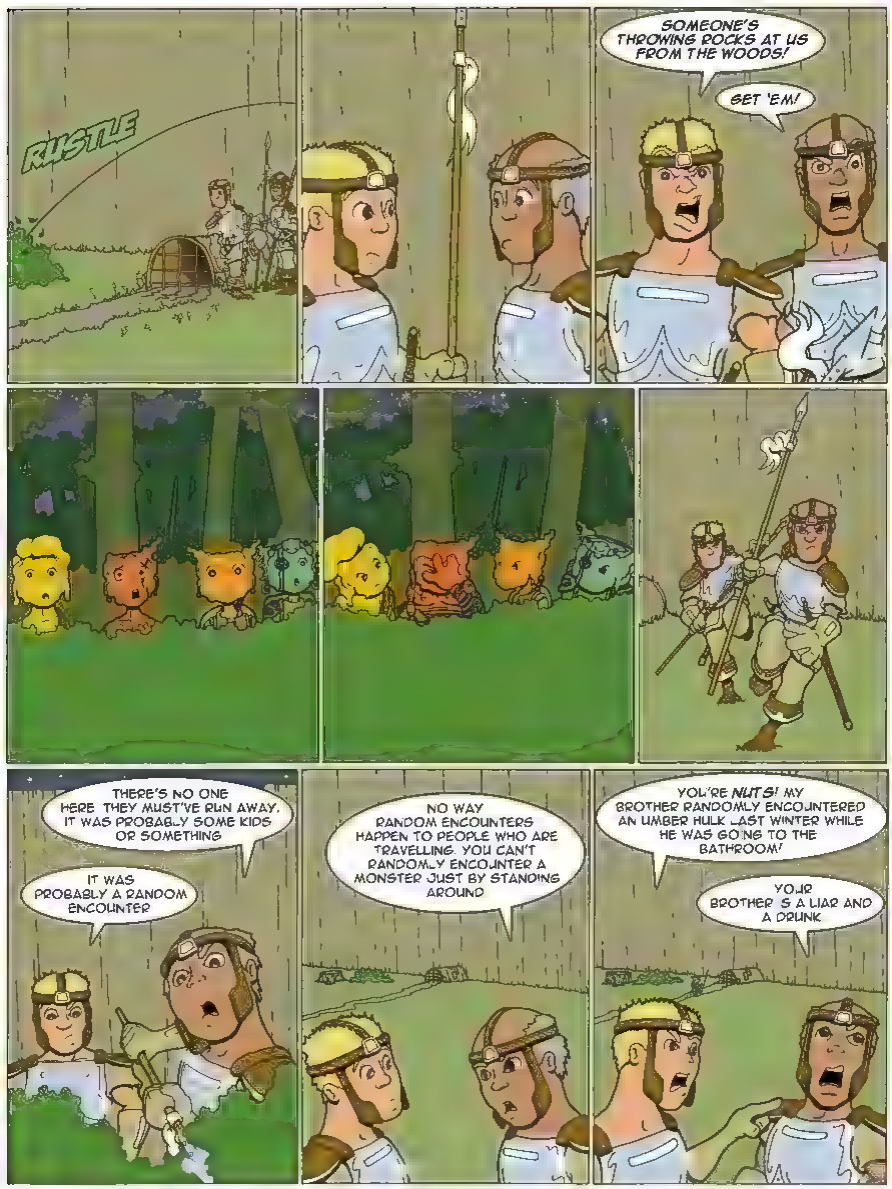
THIS IS BONUS UPDATE #1!

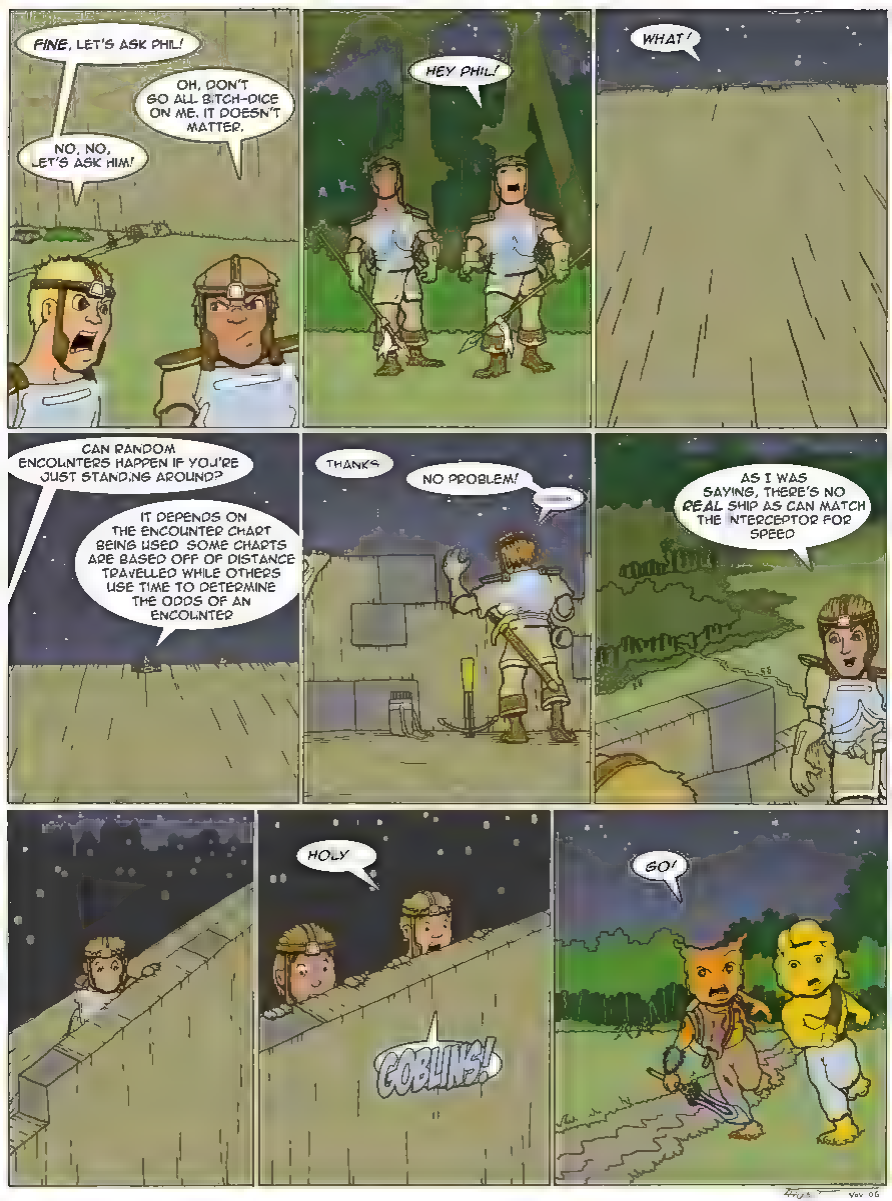
READY n PERS

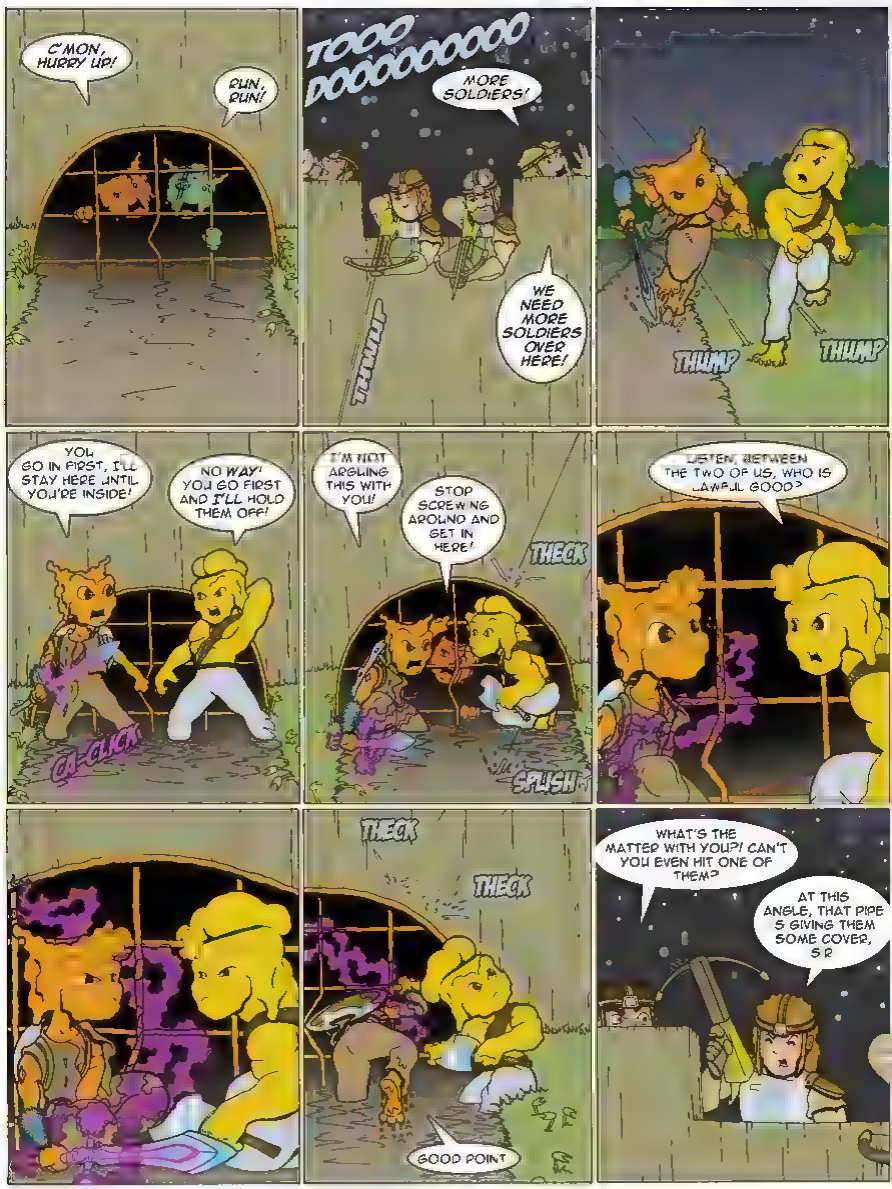
CRACK
WE MISSED SOME OF THEM. SHOULD WE DO ANOTHER CHARGE?
NO TOO CROWDED

COLE, LEAD THE RIDERS DOWN THE HILL. AND HELP MY MOTHER I WILL FINISH THE BATTLE HERE

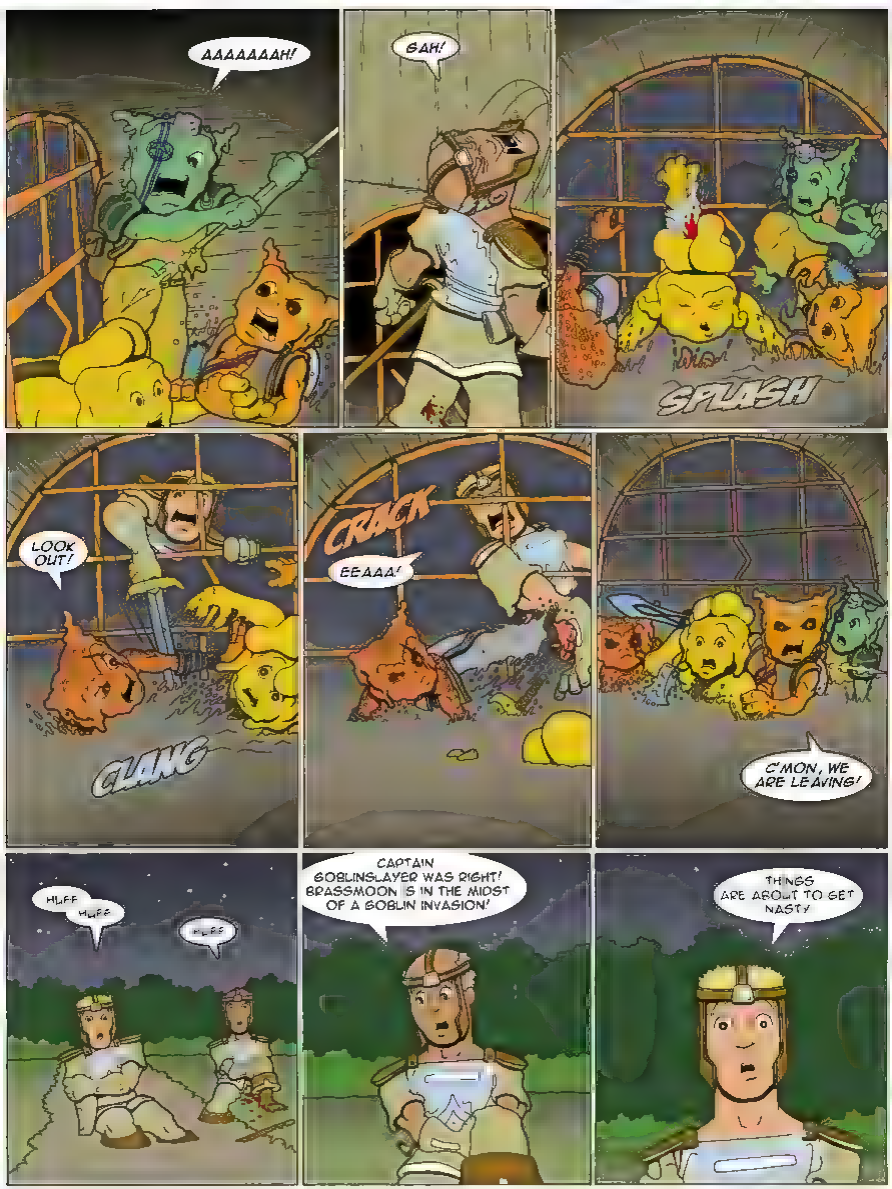
THIS IS RIDICULOUS. I MEAN SERIOUSLY, WHO GUARDS A SEWAGE PIPE? I CAN UNDERSTAND POSTING ELITE GUARDS AT THE GATES AND ON THE WALL, BUT THIS IS TOO MUCH.
WELL, THE CAPTAIN THINKS THERE MIGHT BE A GOBLIN INVASION.
OH PLEASE. THERE ARE NO GOBLINS ANYWHERE NEAR HERE.
I MEAN SERIOUSLY, WHO GUARDS A SEWAGE PIPE?
THEY HAVE REALLY RAISED SECURITY AROUND HERE. I WONDER WHY THEY WOULD.
OH NO.
WHAT?
IT'S FUMBLES. THEY'VE CAPTURED FUMBLES INSIDE THE CITY AND SO NOW THEY'VE PLACED EXTRA GUARDS OUT HERE.
ARE YOU SAYING HE'S DEAD?!
NO. GOBLINSLAYER WOULDN'T KILL HIM YET.
IF WE CAN GET INTO THAT PIPE, I KNOW THE WAY TO SOME DRAINAGE HOLES THAT LEAD INTO THE LOWER DUNGEONS. IT'S WHERE THEY USED TO TAKE NEW CAPTIVES FOR QUESTIONING. IF FUMBLES IS THERE, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GRAB HIM AND RUN. ASSUMING THEY HAVEN'T CHANGED THE LAYOUT.
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE WE CAN SQUEEZE THROUGH THAT GRATE, BUT WHAT ABOUT THOSE GUARDS?
ALRIGHT, HERE'S WHAT I'M GOING TO DO. I'M GONNA THROW THIS STONE INTO THOSE BUSHES OVER THERE. AS SOON AS THE GUARDS GO TO INVESTIGATE THE NOISE, WE DART INTO THE PIPE.


RUSTLE
SOMEONE'S THROWING ROCKS AT US FROM THE WOODS!
GET 'EM!
THERE'S NO ONE HERE. THEY MUST'VE RUN AWAY. IT WAS PROBABLY SOME KIDS OR SOMETHING
IT WAS PROBABLY A RANDOM ENCOUNTER
NO WAY. RANDOM ENCOUNTERS HAPPEN TO PEOPLE WHO ARE TRAVELLING. YOU CAN'T RANDOMLY ENCOUNTER A MONSTER JUST BY STANDING AROUND
YOU'RE NUTS! MY BROTHER RANDOMLY ENCOUNTERED AN UMBER HULK LAST WINTER WHILE HE WAS GOING TO THE BATHROOM!
YOUR BROTHER'S A LIAR AND A DRUNK


FINE, LET'S ASK PHIL!
OH, DON'T GO ALL BITCH-DICE ON ME. IT DOESN'T MATTER.
NO, NO, LET'S ASK HIM!
HEY PHIL!
WHAT!
CAN RANDOM ENCOUNTERS HAPPEN IF YOU'RE JUST STANDING AROUND?
IT DEPENDS ON THE ENCOUNTER CHART BEING USED. SOME CHARTS ARE BASED OFF OF DISTANCE TRAVELLED WHILE OTHERS USE TIME TO DETERMINE THE ODDS OF AN ENCOUNTER
THANKS
NO PROBLEM!
AS I WAS SAYING, THERE'S NO REAL SHIP AS CAN MATCH THE INTERCEPTOR FOR SPEED
HOLY
GOBLINS!
GO!

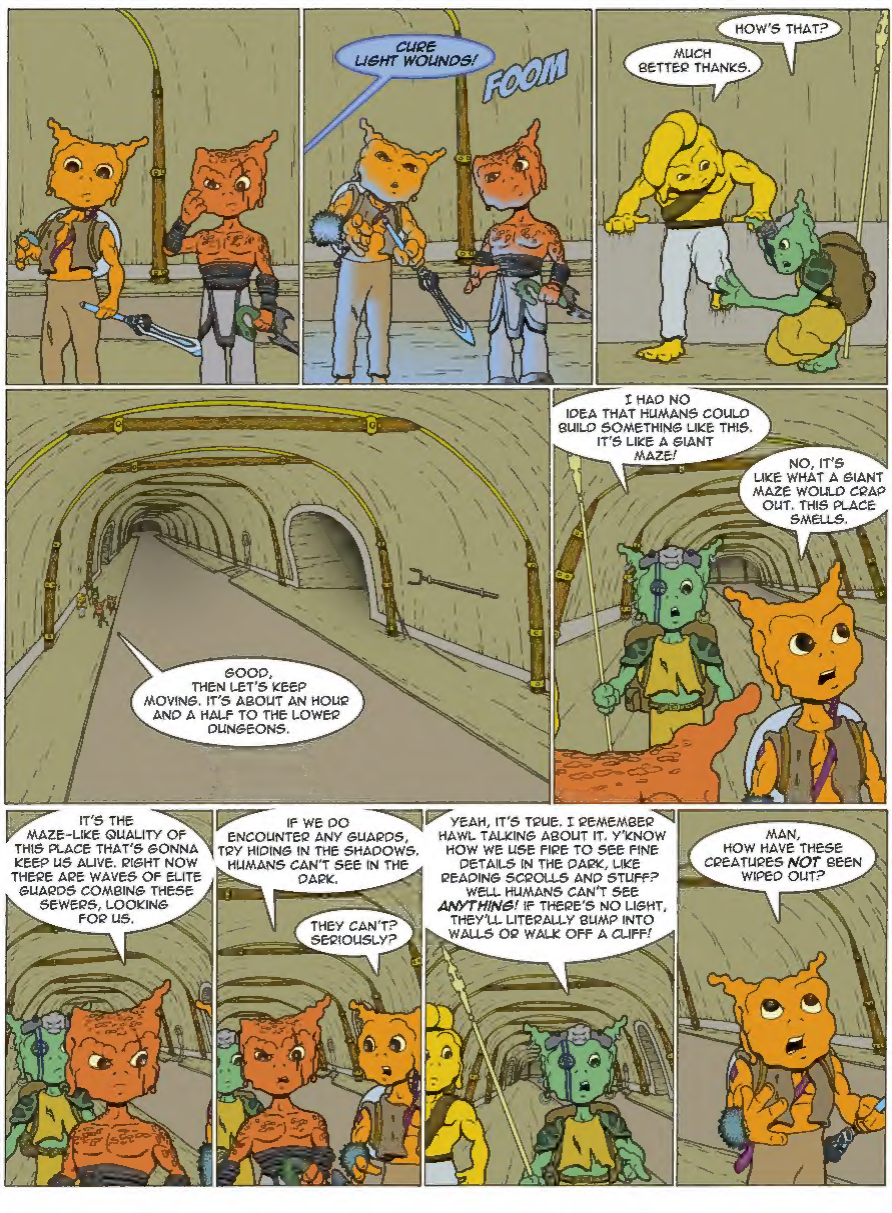

C'MON, HURRY UP!
RUN, RUN!
TOOOOOOOOOO
MORE SOLDIERS!
WE NEED MORE SOLDIERS OVER HERE!
TUMMP
THUMP
THUMP
YOU GO IN FIRST, I'LL STAY HERE UNTIL YOU'RE INSIDE!
NO WAY! YOU GO FIRST AND I'LL HOLD THEM OFF!
CA-CLICK
I'M NOT ARGUING THIS WITH YOU!
STOP SCREWING AROUND AND GET IN HERE!
THECK
SPLUSH
LISTEN, BETWEEN THE TWO OF US, WHO IS LAWFUL GOOD?
THECK
THECK
GOOD POINT
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?! CAN'T YOU EVEN HIT ONE OF THEM?
AT THIS ANGLE, THAT PIPE IS GIVING THEM SOME COVER, SIR

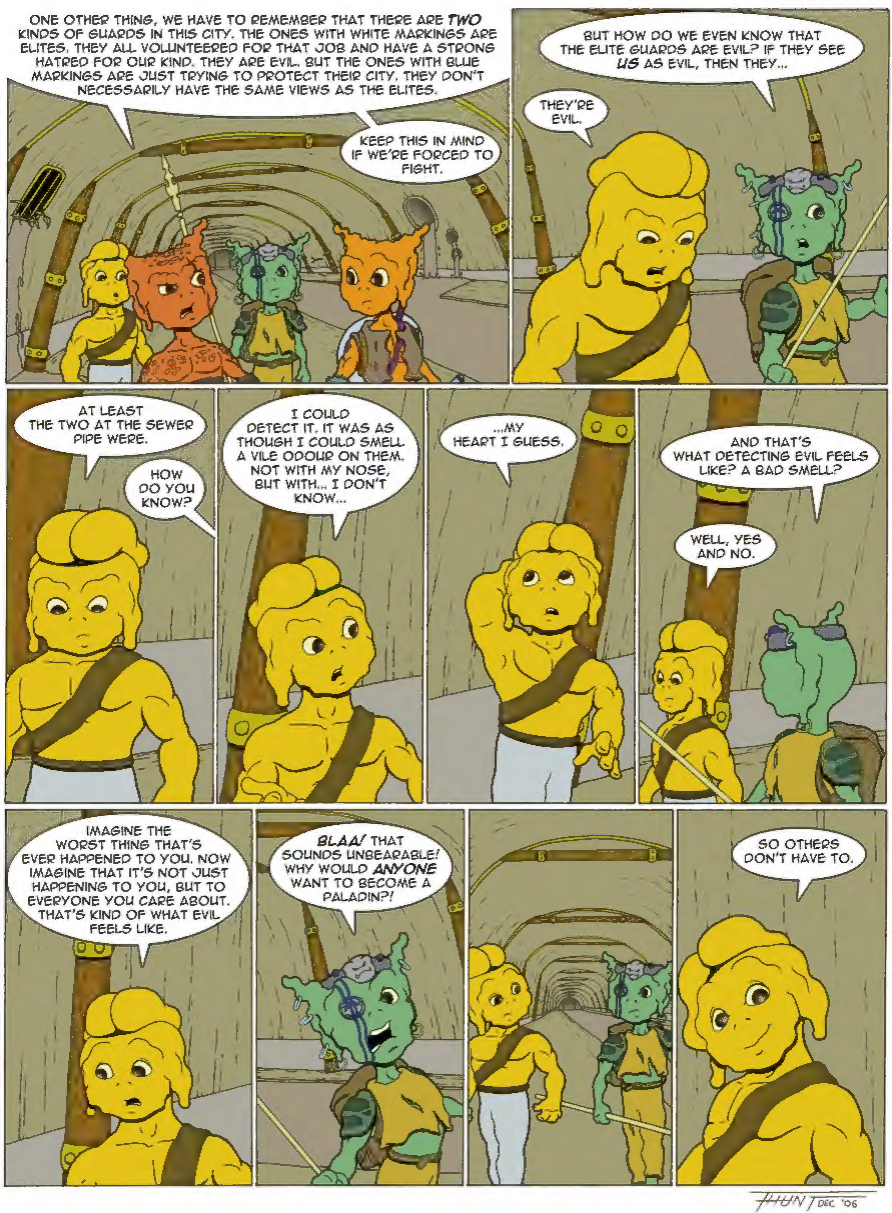
THECK
THECK
THACK
HA!
YAAAAAAH!
I GOT IT!
DON'T LET GO!
GRAB HIM!
I'M LOSING HIM!


AAAAAAAH!
GAH!
SPLASH
LOOK OUT!
CLANG
CRACK
EEAAA!
C'MON, WE ARE LEAVING!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
CAPTAIN GOBLINSLAYER WAS RIGHT! BRASSMOON IS IN THE MIDST OF A GOBLIN INVASION!
THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET NASTY
THUN T
DEC '06

TING
TING
RAAA!

THUP
THUP
AAAAH!
GACK!
GLKKGG
WHUP
FWUP
CRUNCH


CURE LIGHT WOUNDS!
FOOM
MUCH BETTER THANKS.
HOW'S THAT?
GOOD, THEN LET'S KEEP MOVING. IT'S ABOUT AN HOUR AND A HALF TO THE LOWER DUNGEONS.
I HAD NO IDEA THAT HUMANS COULD BUILD SOMETHING LIKE THIS. IT'S LIKE A GIANT MAZE!
NO, IT'S LIKE WHAT A GIANT MAZE WOULD CRAP OUT. THIS PLACE SMELLS.
IT'S THE MAZE-LIKE QUALITY OF THIS PLACE THAT'S GONNA KEEP US ALIVE. RIGHT NOW THERE ARE WAVES OF ELITE GUARDS COMBING THESE SEWERS, LOOKING FOR US.
IF WE DO ENCOUNTER ANY GUARDS, TRY HIDING IN THE SHADOWS. HUMANS CAN'T SEE IN THE DARK.
THEY CAN'T? SERIOUSLY?
YEAH, IT'S TRUE. I REMEMBER HAWL TALKING ABOUT IT. Y'KNOW HOW WE USE FIRE TO SEE FINE DETAILS IN THE DARK, LIKE READING SCROLLS AND STUFF? WELL HUMANS CAN'T SEE ANYTHING! IF THERE'S NO LIGHT, THEY'LL LITERALLY BUMP INTO WALLS OR WALK OFF A CLIFF!
MAN, HOW HAVE THESE CREATURES NOT BEEN WIPED OUT?


ONE OTHER THING, WE HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT THERE ARE TWO KINDS OF GUARDS IN THIS CITY. THE ONES WITH WHITE MARKINGS ARE ELITES. THEY ALL VOLUNTEERED FOR THAT JOB AND HAVE A STRONG HATRED FOR OUR KIND. THEY ARE EVIL. BUT THE ONES WITH BLUE MARKINGS ARE JUST TRYING TO PROTECT THEIR CITY. THEY DON'T NECESSARILY HAVE THE SAME VIEWS AS THE ELITES.
KEEP THIS IN MIND IF WE'RE FORCED TO FIGHT.
BUT HOW DO WE EVEN KNOW THAT THE ELITE GUARDS ARE EVIL? IF THEY SEE US AS EVIL, THEN THEY...
THEY'RE EVIL.
AT LEAST THE TWO AT THE SEWER PIPE WERE.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I COULD DETECT IT. IT WAS AS THOUGH I COULD SMELL A VILE ODOUR ON THEM. NOT WITH MY NOSE, BUT WITH... I DON'T KNOW...
...MY HEART I GUESS.
AND THAT'S WHAT DETECTING EVIL FEELS LIKE? A BAD SMELL?
WELL, YES AND NO.
IMAGINE THE WORST THING THAT'S EVER HAPPENED TO YOU. NOW IMAGINE THAT IT'S NOT JUST HAPPENING TO YOU, BUT TO EVERYONE YOU CARE ABOUT. THAT'S KIND OF WHAT EVIL FEELS LIKE.
BLAA! THAT SOUNDS UNBEARABLE! WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO BECOME A PALADIN?!
SO OTHERS DON'T HAVE TO.
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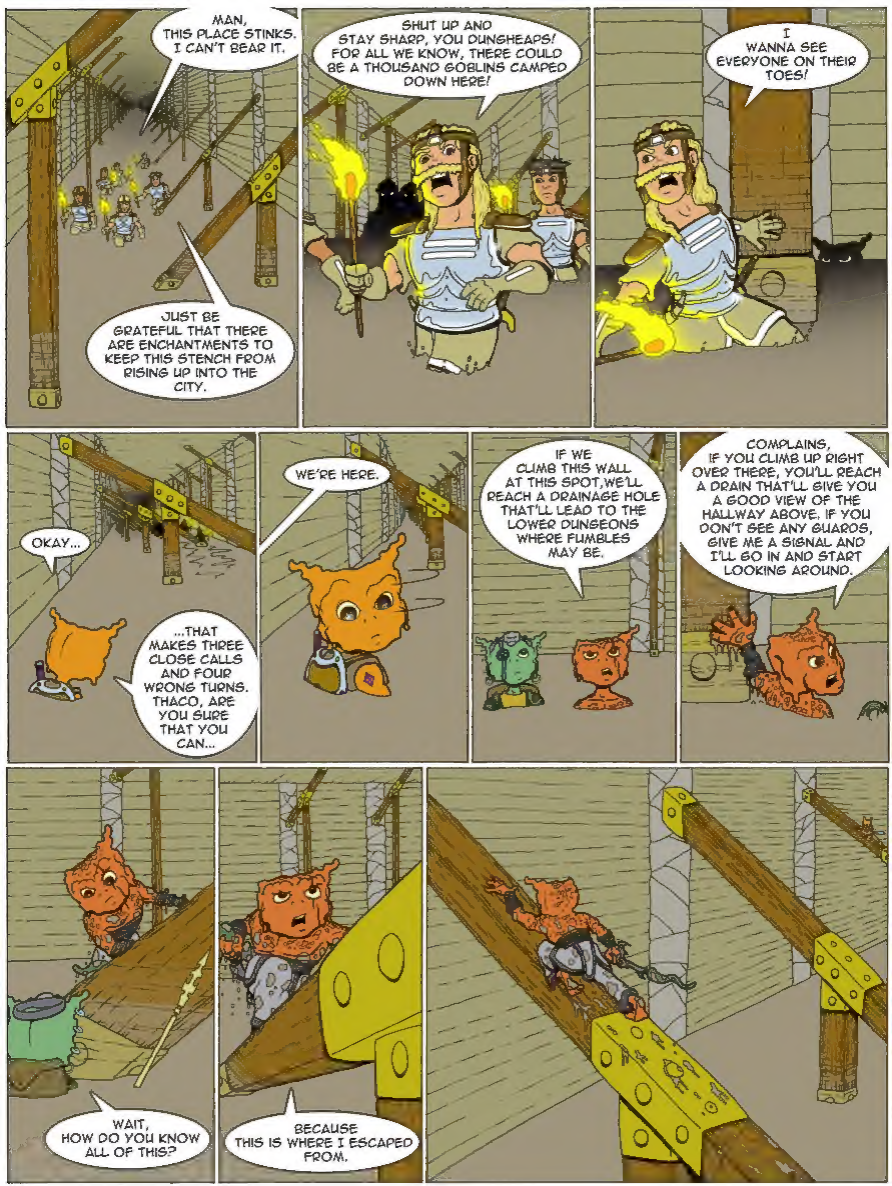
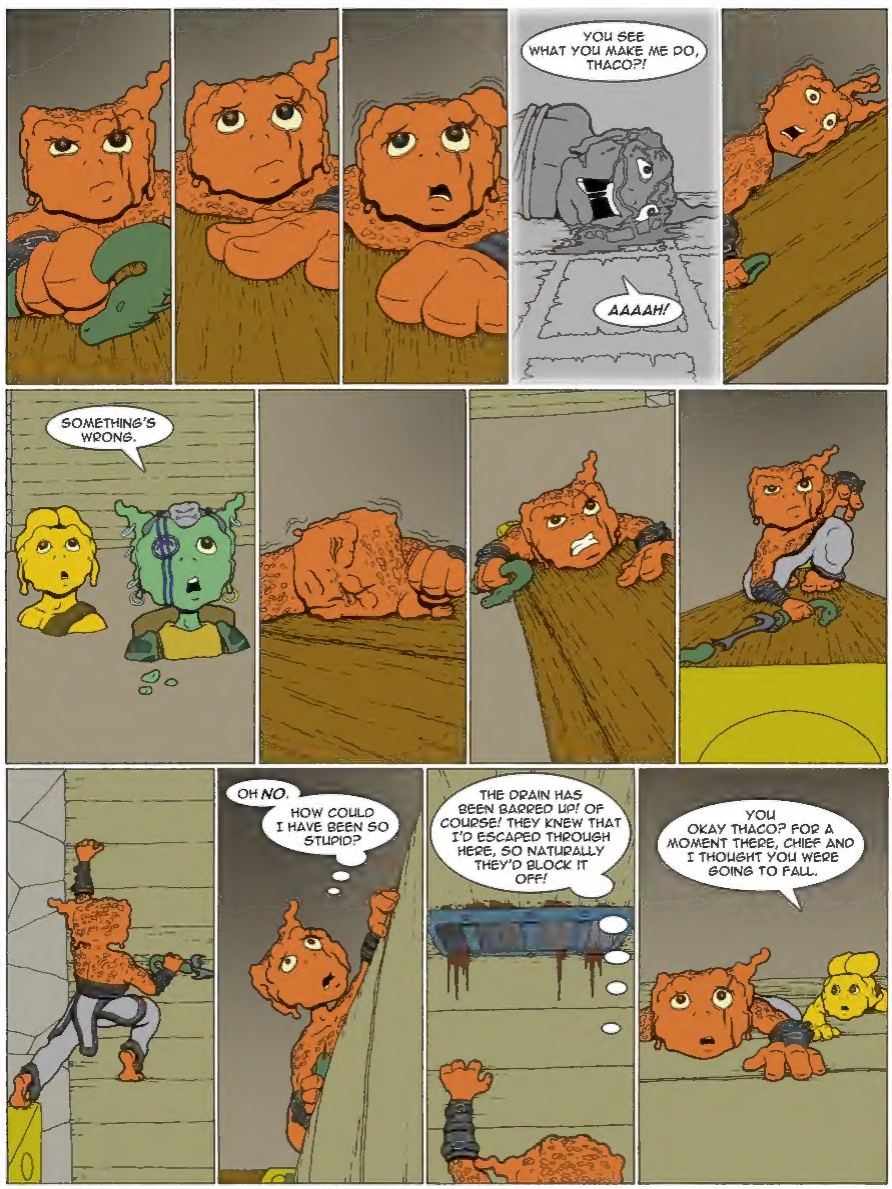

MAN, THIS PLACE STINKS. I CAN'T BEAR IT.
JUST BE GRATEFUL THAT THERE ARE ENCHANTMENTS TO KEEP THIS STENCH FROM RISING UP INTO THE CITY.
SHUT UP AND STAY SHARP, YOU DUNGHEAPS! FOR ALL WE KNOW, THERE COULD BE A THOUSAND GOBLINS CAMPED DOWN HERE!
I WANNA SEE EVERYONE ON THEIR TOES!
OKAY...
...THAT MAKES THREE CLOSE CALLS AND FOUR WRONG TURNS. THACO, ARE YOU SURE THAT YOU CAN...
WE'RE HERE.
IF WE CLIMB THIS WALL AT THIS SPOT,WE'LL REACH A DRAINAGE HOLE THAT'LL LEAD TO THE LOWER DUNGEONS WHERE FUMBLES MAY BE.
COMPLAINS, IF YOU CLIMB UP RIGHT OVER THERE, YOU'LL REACH A DRAIN THAT'LL GIVE YOU A GOOD VIEW OF THE HALLWAY ABOVE. IF YOU DON'T SEE ANY GUARDS, GIVE ME A SIGNAL AND I'LL GO IN AND START LOOKING AROUND.
WAIT, HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL OF THIS?
BECAUSE THIS IS WHERE I ESCAPED FROM.


YOU SEE WHAT YOU MAKE ME DO, THACO?!
AAAAH!
SOMETHING'S WRONG.
OH NO.
HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO STUPID?
THE DRAIN HAS BEEN BARRED UP! OF COURSE! THEY KNEW THAT I'D ESCAPED THROUGH HERE, SO NATURALLY THEY'D BLOCK IT OFF!
YOU OKAY THACO? FOR A MOMENT THERE, CHIEF AND I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO FALL.